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## Mubarak invites Netanyahu for Cairo talks

By JAY BUSHINSKY

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu accepted an invitation yesterday from Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak to join him at a working breakfast in Cairo next Tuesday for talks on the regional peace process as well as bilateral issues.

Although the idea was broached a week ago by Mubarak during a telephone conversation with the

prime minister, an official communique said, the newly-scheduled meetings in London on May 4 between Netanyahu, Palestinian Authority chairman Yasser Arafat and Secretary of State Madeleine Albright may have been the catalyst for the Israeli-Egyptian summit.

This assumption not only is supported by Mubarak's recent expressions of concern about the current deadlock over the depth of

an IDF pullback in the West Bank, but also by remarks made by his foreign minister, Amr Moussa, at the end of the Euro-Med Forum in Majorca.

"If the London talks fail," he reportedly said, "the threat of the peace process being considered expired would be great." With that in mind, Mubarak may hope to convince Netanyahu that it would be prudent and crucial for him to be forthcoming on the territorial

issue when he goes to London.

In any case, the Netanyahu-Mubarak dialogue is likely to coincide with the presence here of US peace envoy Dennis Ross and Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs Martin Indyk. Their mission, which begins Friday and may last well into next week, apparently is meant to produce agreements which Albright will be able to endorse (see story Page 2).

British Prime Minister Tony Blair would also be able to take personal as well as official satisfaction from any such progress.

His current presidency of the European Union would be duly enhanced and the EU's status as a fellow-peacemaker alongside the US would be reinforced.

"I'd like to emphasize once again that this is a process at which the US will be making various proposals," Blair said at the

end of a working breakfast with Netanyahu in Tel Aviv yesterday.

He said he did not want to compete with the Americans, but only to complement their peace initiative. The United Kingdom will "do whatever we can in whatever limited way to support the Mideast peace process."

Netanyahu was optimistic about the London conclave.

"The point is to make significant progress and move to the core

issues to facilitate a final settlement," he said.

However, he hedged about the prospect of a face-to-face meeting with Arafat under the aegis of Albright and Blair, saying: "There is no meeting planned between Yasser Arafat and myself, but there are the series of meetings you know about, so we'll take it from there."

Netanyahu said he would not object to any kind of meeting.

## IDF identifies fighters' remains after 50 years

By ARIEN O'SULLIVAN

His whole life was a search to find his father and pass on the message of his sacrifice. The quest of Yehuda Duvdevani, a retired brigadier-general and war hero, culminated yesterday, 50 years after his father died leading Holocaust survivors on a charge of the Latrun fortress in the War of Independence.

At last, the bodies of his father and a second IDF soldier killed in the 1948 battle were found. Yesterday, the IDF Unit for Missing Soldiers announced that through cross-examination of records and testimony, they were able to identify two soldiers buried anonymously as Capt. Moshe Duvdevani and Pvt. Aharon Tikotzky, both from Petah Tikva, who died on May 25, 1948.

The news came on the very day Yehuda Duvdevani, who is in charge of instilling motivation and Zionism among Israeli youth, had organized 10,000 youngsters to march to Latrun and hear stories of Israeli heroism.

"My whole life revolved around the events of Latrun," said Duvdevani, scanning the hills surrounding the bullet-riddled fort. "My dad was out there some place and I had to find him."

His father was in the Haganah when he was called to lead immigrants, many of them Holocaust survivors, in the battle for Latrun as part of the Seventh Brigade.

"The refugees had only gotten off the boat a week before and were given a crash course in fighting," Duvdevani said. "It was a hot and windy day. The fields were all burning. They were in retreat. My dad was wounded at the outset, but he commanded the entire retreat."

"At one point, when he understood they were cut off, he ordered his soldiers to run for



Michael Duvdevani points out her grandfather Moshe's name to her father, Brig.-Gen. (res.) Yehuda Duvdevani, yesterday at the Latrun Memorial. (Isaac Harari)

their lives. They insisted on trying to carry him, but he threatened them with his loaded weapon to let him be, so he could give covering fire to the other wounded. And he was never seen again," Duvdevani said.

The second soldier, Tikotzky, also displayed courage in the May 25 battle, the army said. According to the IDF, Tikotzky, a member of the Alexandroni Brigade, was carrying a wounded man under fire to a collection

point for treatment, but by the time he arrived, the position in the Arab village of Beit Gizo had been captured and he was killed as he approached.

The IDF discovered that Duvdevani and Tikotzky were not buried in the surrounding fields after all, but that their bodies had been picked up by Israeli troops a few days later and buried in anonymous graves at Tel Aviv's Nahalat Yitzhak Military Cemetery. The bodies are to be exhumed so that DNA

testing can determine which is which.

Duvdevani has asked Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai to allow his father to be buried at Jerusalem's Mt. Herzl Military Cemetery.

"For years we drew our strength from the tomb of the unknown soldier. We wanted a grave. But the heroism of my dad and of Aharon [Tikotzky] set our values," he said.

The bloody battle at Chinese Farm on the Egyptian front dur-

ing the 1973 Yom Kippur War found him as deputy to then-battalion commander Yitzhak Mordechai.

As with his father, he insisted on remaining in the field until the last of his wounded paratroopers were evacuated, before running for cover. The spirit of his father like a wind at his back, he dashed through a hail of fire into a trench where Mordechai lay.

See IDF, Page 2

## Likud, Moledet nearing agreement

By SARAH HONIG

Moledet leader MK Rehavam Ze'evi said last night that he and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu were "close to concluding an agreement which would bring Moledet into the coalition."

He reported that a draft agreement already exists, "but it has not yet been signed."

Among the details still not worked out was the portfolio which Ze'evi would get. He said "this is of secondary importance."

Netanyahu and Ze'evi met to put the finishing touches on their deal late last night.

Netanyahu was more reserved and said "we are midway to an agreement."

The notion of Moledet, the one opposition party to the right of the Netanyahu government, entering the coalition has raised opposition in the Likud, although only coalition chairman Meir Sheerit voiced his objections out loud.

Meanwhile, the coalition is rife with rumors about what can be expected by way of a cabinet reshuffle should Ze'evi be appointed a minister and given a portfolio. He served in only one other government - Yitzhak Shamir's following the Gulf War in 1991, but was given no portfolio.

The speculation in the Likud

was that Yisrael Ba'aliya's Natan Sharansky would be promoted to the post of foreign minister after filling many of the functions unofficially since the departure of Geshet's David Levy from the ministry and the coalition last



Rehavam Ze'evi (Israel Sun)

January. This could mean handing Sharansky's trade and industry portfolio to Ze'evi or it could trigger a broader musical-chairs maneuver.

According to Ze'evi, Moledet's only other MK - Benny Elon - would succeed him as a member of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee.

See LIKUD, Page 2

## Iran will have long-range missile by 2000 - IDF

By LIAT COLLINS

Iran will be able to complete the prototype of a ground-to-ground missile capable of reaching Israel by the end of 1999, a senior IDF intelligence officer told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee yesterday.

The officer reportedly said the Russians are covering up their aid to the Shahab-3 missile project. Despite US pressure, Russia is con-

tinuing to help Iran produce the missiles, which will have a 1,500 km. range, he said.

He also said Iran is continuing to aid Hizbullah by sending arms via Damascus airport.

The officer said Hizbullah is still being vague about its policy should Israel withdraw from the security zone. However, he noted that Hizbullah leader Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah, in a recent interview in Der Spiegel, said his group is plan-

ning to increase its cooperation with the Palestinians in, for example, attacks on Israeli tourists at well known sites such as Petra.

The Syrians are making a great effort to ensure nothing comes of Israel's initiative for a withdrawal from Lebanon and see the idea as a means of separating Lebanon from Syria, which they consider a strategic threat, the officer said.

Regarding the possible IDF withdrawal from Lebanon, the officer

said Syria's attempts to prevent it can be seen in the visit to Egypt by Syrian President Hafez Assad. The officer said Damascus apparently is investing in a public relations campaign against the Israeli initiative.

He said the entire Lebanese government operates according to Syria's dictates and opposes coming to an independent arrangement with Israel. In daily interviews in the media, Lebanese officials say they will not hold separate negotia-

tions with Israel and will not act as a security guarantor if Israel unilaterally withdraws. The apparent Arab perception is that Syria acts as a stabilizing factor in Lebanon.

The officer said that the UN force along the Syrian border with Israel, UNDOF, is dealing with Israel's complaints regarding ground works that were detected on the Syrian side of buffer zone in the Golan in violation of agreements signed more than 20 years ago.

## Done deal

The Likud was taken by surprise when Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu announced Monday night he was negotiating Moledet's entry into his coalition.

The very fact he made the talks public, say party pundits, is proof of the fact that this is, for all intents and purposes, a done deal.

This view is shared by Moledet activists who say the tone Rehavam Ze'evi uses to describe Netanyahu

is more than friendly. The two have a draft agreement, which now needs no more than the finishing touches.

The bottom line: Netanyahu and Ze'evi are chummy and they have an understanding. It would be simple to implement immediately - were Netanyahu a free agent. But he is not. He heads a coalition of assorted, conflicting interests.

See ANALYSIS, Page 2

## Study: Ordinary Germans benefited from Jewish property

By ELI WOHLGELER

A case study of what happened to Jewish property in Hamburg, Germany, during the Holocaust, reveals that what was not taken by

the Nazi government was taken over by ordinary Germans in the town, and that such actions occurred throughout Germany.

In an article entitled "The beneficiaries of 'Aryanization': Hamburg as a case study" in the recently published *Yad Vashem Studies XXVI*, author Frank Bajohr said that "by systematically distributing and auctioning off Jewish possessions, the Nazi regime turned broad segments of the German population into accomplices of its policies of plunder and expansion, transferring them into material beneficia-

ries of the Holocaust."

According to David Silberklang, the editor of *Yad Vashem Studies*, historians until now have mainly concentrated on Nazi government policy with regard to Jewish property, and the pocketing of property by high-ranking Nazi officials.

"This case study in Hamburg, which had a significant Jewish community, found that participation in taking over Jewish property and individual Jewish items, from the smallest item like a tea kettle to significant things that Jews owned, found that participation was widespread. And not only

among party and government officials in Hamburg, but also among the general population."

Silberklang said that auctions of property went on nearly daily in Hamburg during the war, from 1939 through 1945, and that many ordinary Germans from the city and from the area around the city would come and bid for things.

"And it was clear what they were bidding for, and it was clear to them what they were taking - it was clear what was going on."

What he [Bajohr] found was that in Hamburg - and apparently from initial probes in other places,

this is an illustration of what went on in general in Germany - he found that the regular goods of Jews were spread out among the population through sales and auctions by the government. The amount involved is unknown - it's enormous, but unknown. Many, many millions, hundreds of millions, of Reichsmarks, we don't know. I don't know if we'll be able to ever sort out all this."

Silberklang said this study "has implications that are very real and actual for today, similar to the issues of other European countries, and the Swiss gold issue."

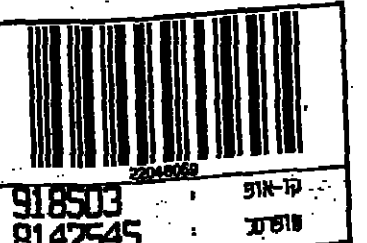
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## NEWS

in brief

## Mordechai hosts Cohen, Weizman for breakfast

US Secretary of Defense William Cohen met with his Israeli counterpart Yitzhak Mordechai over breakfast at Mordechai's home in Motza yesterday before departing on the last leg of his Middle Eastern sweep. In an unusual move, President Ezer Weizman also came to the breakfast.

Defense officials said the meeting had a "warm, unofficial nature," but added that they discussed the peace process and the security relationship between Israel and the US.

It was Cohen's first visit to Israel as secretary of defense. During his visit, Cohen announced that the US would give funding toward a third battery of the Arrow anti-ballistic missile system. Cohen, who was accompanied by his wife Janet, later flew to Greece. *Arie O'Sullivan*

## Israel slammed at Majorca FM's meeting

Mediterranean foreign ministers convened in Majorca charged Israel yesterday with taking unilateral actions "contrary to the peace process" and they backed plans for a new round of US-sponsored Middle East talks in London.

Ending two days of meetings on the Spanish island of Majorca, leaders from 11 European and African countries sent a tough message to Israel, urging withdrawal of troops from the Palestinian West Bank and a halt to Jewish settlement building on Arab land.

In Jerusalem, the foreign ministry declined to respond publicly. "Israel is not a member and we are unfamiliar with the body's make-up," said the ministry's spokesman, Aviv Shir-On. *Reuters*

## Miriam Levinger gets suspended sentence

Jerusalem Magistrate's Court yesterday gave Miriam Levinger a four-month suspended sentence for attacking an IDF officer and the stalls of Arab peddlers in the Hebron casbah in 1993. *Itim*

## Susskin to be given prison leave

Tatiana Susskin, who was sentenced to two years in prison in January for stoning an Arab motorist and posting caricatures in Hebron depicting Mohammed as a pig, is to be allowed a leave from prison for the first time.

According to the terms of the leave, granted by a Tel Aviv District Court judge, Susskin will not be allowed to stay over in Jerusalem or the territories. *Itim*

## Clinton to receive honorary degree from HU

US President Bill Clinton will receive an honorary doctor of philosophy degree from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem at a ceremony to be held at the White House on April 27, the university spokesman said last night.

The degree ceremony will be part of the White House's official celebration of the 50th anniversary of the State of Israel. Conferring the degree will be Hebrew University president Prof. Menachem Magidor and rector Prof. Menahem Ben-Sasson. *Jerusalem Post Staff*

## Hizbullah offers quiet if Israel leaves Lebanon

By DAVID RUDGE

A leading Hizbullah official has indicated that the group would not take its fight across Israel's northern border were the IDF to withdraw from the security zone.

Sheikh Naim Kassem, deputy head of Hizbullah, stated in a recent interview with a French language magazine published in Lebanon that the organization's resistance is "against the Israeli occupation."

He was responding to a question of how Hizbullah would react if Israel were to withdraw from south Lebanon and the Lebanese army did not deploy in the areas vacated by the IDF.

"Our connection to the issue is therefore limited to the defense of our land and people against the occupier," said Kassem. "I repeat however, that this task is the sole province and responsibility of the state, not ours," he said.

## IDF

Continued from Page 1

"Duv Duv," Mordechai said. "The entire Egyptian Army is trying to kill you and you refuse to die." For Duvdevani, it was the ultimate redemption. He had stood in his father's last footsteps - and survived.

Duvdevani was wounded several times and received the medal of valor. He later set up the Givati Brigade and served as Mordechai's deputy when he was OC Southern Command during the intifada. After he retired, Mordechai called upon him to head the Youth, Nahal, and National Missions Branch of the ministry.

Addressing the youth at Latrun about Duvdevani's saga,

Mordechai noted that, "I have been with him in battle and I have seen how the values he drew from it influenced him to give a personal example on how to fight." Mordechai has ordered that the story of Capt. Moshe Duvdevani's battle of Latrun be told to IDF soldiers.

"The message in the 50th year of Israel is that the youth today must understand that the nation was bought with blood. We have values and we need to know that we have to give."

And only this way will we have in the future the kind of state that all those who fell showing us the way had prayed for," Duvdevani said.

Duvdevani's nephew, Moshe Duvdevani's grandson, is the commander of an elite unit serving in Lebanon.

With deep sorrow, we announce the passing of our beloved

## RAHEL RETA BEHR

Daughter of Yehuda Leib  
The funeral took place yesterday,  
at the Segula Cemetery in Petah Tikva.

Mourning by:

Her husband, Nehemia - Harold  
Her sister, Doreen Sassoon, Manchester  
Her children, Ruth and David and families  
and her grandchildren, Asaf,  
Alon, Noam, Naomi, and Michal

Shiva will be at 80 Krinitz, Apt. 4, Ramat Gan.

The Embassy of Mexico in Israel  
wishes to inform that on the occasion of the  
passing away of Mexican universal poet and essayist

## OCTAVIO PAZ

A Book of Condolences will be open at  
3 Bograshov St., Tel Aviv  
from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., up till April 29, 1998

## Gov't: PA has 16,000 more policemen than Oslo allows

By STEVE RODAN

The Palestinian Authority has deployed 16,000 more police officers than allowed by the Oslo Accords, government officials said yesterday, making the PA one of the most heavily policed area in the world.

The PA is allowed to deploy up to 24,000 policemen in the West Bank and Gaza, according to the 1995 interim agreement. But officials said the PA has employed 40,000 officers, 66 percent more than allowed.

This makes the PA police force 60% higher than that of Israel, officials said. In addition,

they said, the number of PA police in comparison to the Palestinian population exceeds that of most countries.

For example, while Switzerland has two officers per 1,000 residents and Spain has 4.5, the PA has 16.7 policemen per 1,000 residents.

"In the 15 months since the signing of the Hebron Agreement, the PA has done nothing to reduce the size of its police force, and there are no indications that it intends to do so," Michael Freund, deputy communications director in the Prime Minister's Office, said. "This is not a matter of an extra handful of policemen."

Freund said the PA has also violated its com-

mitment to submit for Israeli approval the names of all police recruits. So far, he said, the PA has submitted the names of 18,400 recruits, less than half of all Palestinian officers.

"This is a blatant violation of the accords," he said. "Israel expects the PA to reduce the size of its police force and to submit comprehensive lists of all its police recruits as required by the agreements."

PA officials have defended the size of their force, asserting that most of the employees do not have police duties. They add that the police force has become a major employer in the PA at a time of high unemployment.



## Blair meets high-school students

British Prime Minister Tony Blair greets high-school pupils at Tel Aviv University's Engineering School yesterday morning. Blair said yesterday the issue of Jerusalem should be put aside until other issues in the peace process are settled. "It is in my view an extremely difficult problem, but you're best dealing with it in the final status talks and I don't think it's helpful, frankly, for Britain or any outside party to start expressing views on it at this stage."

(Text: Michael Yehoshua; Photo: Gili Hadas)

## NY councillor visits Hebron settlers

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

Peter Vallone, speaker and majority leader of the New York City Council, visited the Jewish Community in Hebron yesterday during the first part of his two-day visit.

Vallone called the settlers in Hebron brave and an inspiration that only served to stress the necessity of honoring the Hebron Agreement.

"Some years ago I met with former prime minister Yitzhak Rabin in New York and at the time he invited me to attend the fiftieth anniversary celebrations. Today I feel I am fulfilling that commitment," said Vallone, who was invited by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and is scheduled to meet with him today. "I hope that as we go into the third millennium we will see only peace, love and the ability to worship God freely with a strong, free Israel and a strong United States standing at its side."



Peter Vallone (Golan Cohen/Gabi)

Vallone, a fervent Christian, yesterday also found time to attend mass at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre and meet Yehoshafat Tor, who is recuperating from wounds sustained in Sunday's attack at Moshav Maon.

He went on to meet with the parents of MIA Zacharia Baumel and with Minister of Trade and Industry Nathan Shtroumsky before attending a working dinner with Finance Minister Yaacov Neeman.

"I plan to inform the Baumeles that we [the city council] will do everything in our power to pressure the authorities into returning all the MIAs," he said.

Vallone brought with him several resolutions recently passed by the New York City Council urging the US government to pressure the Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat to live up to the Oslo Accords and Hebron Agreement and demand that the PA crack-down on terrorists and extradite wanted Palestinian fugitives to Israel. Another resolution calls for the US Embassy to relocate to Jerusalem.

Currently seeking the Democratic nomination for governor of New York, Vallone says he hopes the resolutions will win the support of US President Bill Clinton and other federal government leaders.

"Only with a strong, secure Israel can people of all faiths worship freely in Jerusalem, the eternal capital of Israel," he says.

Regarding settlements in the West Bank, Vallone said, "I support the letter of the law, but I support a lot of people who live in freedom with secure borders."

Vallone said that, while some may feel that the US administration's ties with Israel have become lukewarm since Netanyahu was elected prime minister, there is no question of the friendly ties between the two countries changing.

"I am very sorry that there is this kind of feeling and many times I have raised the matter with Clinton and Congress members, but I cannot accept that there is a 'cooling down' in the relationship and even though the perception exists there is no question of the friendship changing," he said.

## LIKUD

Continued from Page 1

Ze'evi also reported that his party would support the government on all votes other than those which involve the Oslo process. But even here it would not oppose the government on confidence votes.

Elon expressed "discomfort with the idea that we are bound to vote confidence. We undertook to oppose any territorial concession whatever." Some in the Likud went

so far as to predict a split in Moledet's ranks.

But Ze'evi dismissed this, noting that "the party executive had empowered the Knesset faction [himself and Elon] to conclude an agreement. I have received many inquiries from members and activists since the news of the negotiations broke and there had been very broad support for the idea of strengthening the hawkish element in this government. I see this as the raison d'être of the move."

He described his meetings with Netanyahu as "very friendly. I found a sincere, wise, diligent, thorough man who spends numerous hours, long into the small hours of the night at work. We have reached an understanding on most issues."

Netanyahu stressed again that "Moledet will have to accept the basic government guidelines, though it will have the right to vote against what it opposes - all except in confidence motions."

His motive in initiating the move, Netanyahu added, "was to strengthen

on the coalition." Even within the coalition there are many who consider the Oslo Accords anathema, but we are in the agreement and we have to make the best of the situation for Israel."

Netanyahu is expected to encounter opposition in the Likud, primarily from those who decried Ze'evi's co-optation to the Shamir cabinet - MKs Ze'ev (Beny) Begin, Dan Meridor and Ehud Olmert. There may also be a backlash among the Likud's relative doves like Sheerit.

Shas, too, voiced a similar objection. It has only two ministers with 10 MKs, and has been bucking for a third or some other worthwhile compensation.

Sheerit, meanwhile, has been eyeing a cabinet seat. Ever since his recent court victory, he has made his pitch for a ministerial appointment open and very loud. He has been extremely loyal to Netanyahu for months, hoping to get on his good side.

But all this may have been for naught. If Ze'evi takes the one empty chair at the cabinet, there will be none for Sheerit - or for other hopefuls.

## Arafat goes to Jedda

By STEVE RODAN and MOHAMMED NABE

Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat went to Saudi Arabia yesterday, miffed over what Palestinians sources said was the warm welcome Hamas leader Sheikh Ahmed Yassin received from the royal family earlier this month.

Arafat held talks with King Fahd regarding the visit of British Prime Minister Tony Blair and the preparations for the May 4 London meeting with Blair and US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright.

Palestinian sources said Arafat's decision to visit Fahd stemmed from the warm welcome the Saudi family extended to Yassin when the Hamas leader arrived for what was described as medical treatment.

Israeli security sources said Yassin's real goal was to coordinate positions with Hamas leaders around the world.

The sources said Arafat was particularly bothered by the widespread media coverage given Yassin's visit, which was relayed to the PA areas as well. The PA chief, who yesterday oversaw the shipment of two tons of medicine and milk to Baghdad, was said to feel that the strong Arab support Yassin received undermined his position.

Arafat's visit comes as PA officials prepare for the arrival of US envoy Dennis Ross on Friday. Arafat's aide Nabil Abu Rudeineh said Ross's visit will determine the success of the subsequent talks in London. So far, PA officials said, Arafat is not scheduled to meet Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

Abu Rudeineh said Ross's visit will display the capability of Washington to pressure Israel to increase the amount of territory it is offering the PA in the next redeployment in the West Bank.

"Whereas the Palestinian side responded positively to the US proposals," he said, "we are waiting to see if the US can impose its position on Israel, or if Israel will continue its procrastination. We are waiting to see if the Ross visit and the meeting in London will be a new beginning to rescue the peace process."

Some PA officials sounded upset over the US suggestion that it might end its involvement in the peace process should the London talks fail. PA negotiator Saeb Erekat said he disagreed with the US attitude that both Israelis and Palestinians are responsible for the stalemate.

## PM's military aide quits

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

The general who was supposed to be Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's military aide has decided not to take the job and will leave the army, military sources said.

Brig. Gen. Matti Harari was named Netanyahu's military secretary last month, but the appointment was never implemented. Instead, Col. Shimon Shapira, who has been the prime minister's acting military aide, will be given the promotion, government and military sources said.

The sources said that the episode stems from a conflict between Netanyahu and Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai. There has been no military aide for the prime minister since Maj.-Gen. Ze'ev Livne was appointed military attaché in Washington over half a year ago.

Mordechai had offered a list of candidates to succeed Livne, but these were all turned down. Shapira was not on the list, but he was the preferred candidate, the military source said.

"Netanyahu simply held out until he got the man he wanted," the source said. Military sources confirmed that Harari was resigning.

## SOCIAL &amp; PERSONAL

THE WEEKLY MEETING of the English-speaking Jerusalem Rotary Club will NOT take place today at 1:00 p.m. at the YMCA, King David Street. R/Arthur Ben-Zion will speak on "From Damascus to Haifa and Back."

## THE WILL TO REMEMBER...

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مكتبة الجليل



## Vanunu parole hearing today

By RUTHIEVA TSUR  
and news agencies

Nuclear spy Mordechai Vanunu is due to appear this morning before a parole board that will decide whether he can get a one-third reduction of his 18-year sentence for passing Israeli atomic secrets to *The Sunday Times* of London.

Although Vanunu, jailed in 1987, was recently taken out of solitary confinement, the board is not expected to approve his parole today, particularly after Vanunu gave an unauthorized interview earlier this week to the paper.

Prison authorities are investigating how the interview was released to the paper and whether to take disciplinary steps against the prisoner, who had worked as a technician at the Dimona facility.

Meanwhile, Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi said yesterday that he would not agree to meet with two British politicians here on a mission to secure Vanunu's release.

The meeting had been requested by the joint vice-chairmen of the human rights groups of the British Parliament and House of Lords, Labor MPs Jeremy Corbyn and Lord Avebury. The two, accompanied by actress Susannah York, also delivered a petition to President Ezer Weizman asking him to pardon Vanunu as a gesture during Israel's 50th anniversary. They left the petition, signed by 700 international public figures, with Weizman's director-general, Arye Shumer, after failing to secure a meeting with the president.

Hanegbi said yesterday that the Vanunu affair was "an internal concern of the state of Israel that relates to our very security and existence."

"No one in Britain or any other country which is not threatened like we are by weapons of mass destruction has the right to involve themselves in Israeli legal procedure," Hanegbi added.

Vanunu's adoptive parents, who visited him yesterday at Shikma prison in Ashkelon, said he was not ready to express remorse over his actions and did not believe the parole board would grant him a reduction.

"He is very agitated and ill at ease about it," said Nick Eloff, who with his wife Mary, has adopted Vanunu.

"Everything he has said before he will say again at the parole board hearing. I don't know if they want to break him, if they want him to say he's sorry," Eloff said.

The Eloffs were tearful as they left the jail. "I just wish I could take him out today," Mary Eloff said.

If parole is denied, the Eloffs said they hoped Vanunu would be pardoned by Weizman.

As Independence Day approaches, and the Blatman Committee, which is preparing guidelines according to which pardons should be granted, readies to present its recommendations, pressure is being mounted on President Weizman.

Three MKs — Uzi Landau (Likud), Shmaryahu Ben-Tsur (NRP) and Benny Elon (Molodet) — yesterday called on the president to include Rabbi Uzi Meshulam, leader of a violent cult, on the list of persons he pardons during the Jubilee year.

"We are joining in the call of rabbis and spiritual leaders who consider that the difficult background of the Yemenite children affair, [Meshulam's] poor state of health and the many years he has spent in jail — are justification for granting a presidential pardon," the MKs said. They added that this could also be a "contribution towards healing the social wounds involved."

# Ben-Ari gets 6 years, NIS 5m. fine

By RUTHIEVA TSUR

Zvi Ben-Ari (Gregory Lerner), convicted of the most serious financial crimes in Israel's history, was yesterday sentenced to six years' imprisonment and a NIS 5 million fine.

In accepting the plea-bargain worked out between the state and the accused, Jerusalem District Court Judge Ezra Kama did not mince words.

"In every charge of the indictment there is nothing but fraud," he said. Ben-Ari turned Israel into "a place of asylum from where he stretched out his criminal tentacles to Russia, Cyprus, Panama, and Luxembourg," Kama said in sentencing him to the maximum term under the agreement.

"There is not the slightest doubt that the goal towards which the accused was working so diligently — getting a license for opening and operating a bank — was to set up a framework for acts of fraud that he had already committed or additional acts of this kind."

Kama noted that Ben-Ari had given Israel a bad name in the banking world and that he had previous convictions from Russia — all of which pointed to meting out the maximum sentence. To

Ben-Ari's credit, he noted that the accused had returned money to some new immigrants who had invested with him.

Under the plea-bargain, Ben-Ari admitted to 13 charges of fraud, forgery, and blackmail, including defrauding banks in Russia of some \$50 million and attempts to gain control of banks in Israel and abroad.

He also admitted to attempting to bribe former prime minister Shimon Peres, Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky, and Labor MK Nissim Zivili to help him achieve his aims — but without success. Another admission related to bribing two bank clerks.

Ben-Ari received the sentence with a stony silence, but his lawyer, Yoram Shefel, immediately declared to reporters that his client is innocent.

"Only I, who spoke to Ben-Ari in his native Russian during the long hours he deliberated over whether to sign the plea bargain, can tell you that he is innocent. He was deprived of all his rights," Shefel declared.

"Ben-Ari admitted to a series of charges which he did not commit, because of a series of some 30 court decisions in almost all of which he was stripped of the basic rights of an accused. He



Zvi Ben-Ari arrives for sentencing yesterday at Jerusalem District Court.

(Isaac Harari)

was held in a way that is not acceptable," Shefel said, referring to the prolonged detention

period which Ben-Ari underwent before the trial began. The state had justified the

detention on the grounds that Ben-Ari had a plan to flee Israel by sea.

"The culmination was Ben-Ari's hunger strike," Shefel declared. At that point, he said, the state requested that the trial be held in camera.

"In effect, the public was therefore barred from seeing [Ben-Ari's] protest."

He said that his client therefore decided "to agree to acts he never committed" in order to avoid a prolonged trial, at the end of which he would have received 10-12 years' imprisonment. "He preferred to admit to something he did not do and get only six years."

Ben-Ari's wife, Lena, on the other hand, expressed satisfaction that "the suffering is finally over. At least we know what to [expect] now," she said.

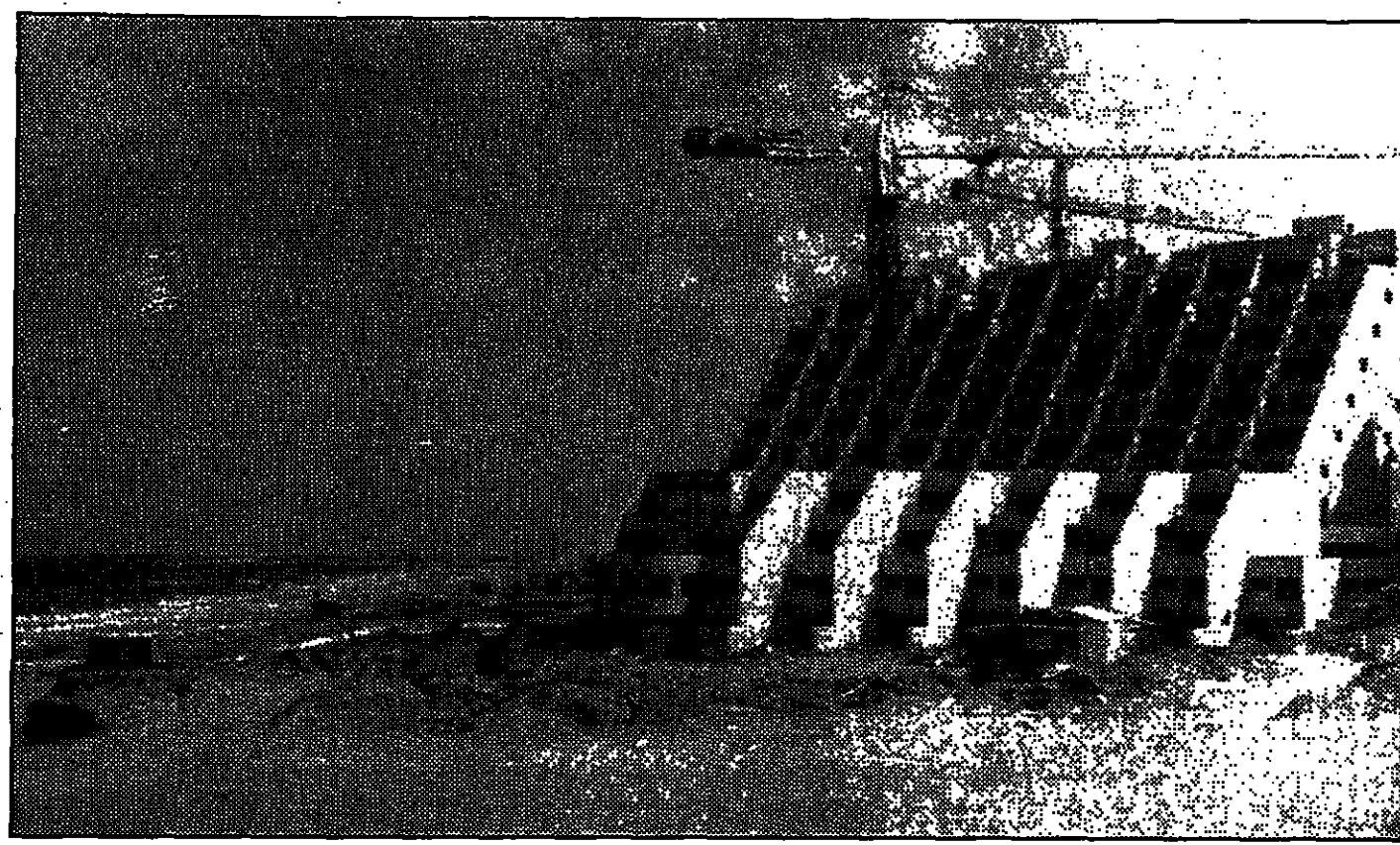
Lena Ben-Ari added that she had believed all the time her husband is innocent.

She said that she loves Israel but is disappointed in the legal system.

According to the ruling, Ben-Ari has five months in which to pay the NIS 5m. fine.

If he does not pay it in time, he will have to serve an additional two years.

His wife expressed doubt that he would have the wherewithal to serve the extra time.



## Beaches for the people

Six members of the student environmental group Green Society stand atop a crane they occupied at the Sea and Sun building project at Tel Aviv's Tel Baruch beach yesterday. Activist Eran Ben-Yemini said the project was chosen because it violates the ban on building anything except public facilities within 100 meters from the water. "The group members will remain on the crane until [Tel Aviv Mayor] Ronnie Milo, who himself owns an apartment in the project, agrees to back down from all the construction projects which are taking the beaches from the public and giving them to private individuals," Ben-Yemini said.

(Text: Lisa Collins; photo: Assaf Shiloah/Israel Sun)

## RUSSIAN PRESS REVIEW

By YOSEF BEGUN

### He's drinking champagne

"He who never takes risks does not drink champagne," goes a Russian proverb. Israel Eldad in *Secret* notes that General Security Service (Shin Bet) agent Avishai Raviv, nicknamed "Champagne," has run very big risks — and now he's enjoying high-level protection.

"Assisted by governmental bodies, Raviv recently managed to avoid the civil suit by Hagai Amir (brother of Yigal Amir). The state saved Raviv — and itself." If Raviv were obliged to testify, he could say a lot of undesirable things, writes Eldad.

In his civil action, Hagai Amir stated that Raviv lied in court, saying he was not a Shin Bet agent. In so doing, Raviv deprived the defense of the chance to state that the Amir brothers were influenced by a provocateur and thus to ask for milder punishment.

After all, Hagai Amir cancelled his civil suit in exchange for a promise to improve his prison conditions. "Raviv continues to drink champagne," says Eldad.

Yigal Amir, he adds, had done his best to protect Raviv. What terrible secret is he keeping? What are the two brothers and the Shin Bet

still hiding? Why has the public been left in the dark for so long? Is the Rabin family interested in preserving the current situation, which leaves a lot of questions unanswered? asks Eldad.

### Protecting nature from the Jews

Today there are only two Jewish communities in the mountains of Hebron within the Green Line. As Dov Kontorzer states in *Vesti*, their geographical position facilitates moving the future border into the depths of "small Israel." In order to ensure preserving Israeli control over this area, National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon proposed establishing six new Jewish settlements, also inside the Green Line. Surprisingly, this plan is opposed by SPNI (the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel), whose affiliations with the Left are well known.

Well, the Green-left think, some of the Jewish settlements are going to be preserved anyway, says Kontorzer. So the Palestinians will have to get some areas inside the Green Line in exchange. Territories around the Hebron mountains are "convenient" for such a deal for

two reasons: they are sparsely populated, and they can serve as a corridor between the Gaza Strip and Arab enclaves in Judea (such a corridor is a long-time dream of the Palestinians).

The Left has realized that such an agenda will further weaken their standing. That is why they decided to share the job with "harmless" nature protectors. But if they acted without double standards, they would notice other numerous instances of Arabs harming nature resources. For example, illegal building, he says.

### Yes, our people need Hebron

Alexander Lichtigman in *Vremya* shares his impressions of the recent jubilee celebration in Hebron. Some people think the government is being wasteful by sending IDF soldiers to Hebron to defend a handful of Jewish settlers, he says.

But what did the ceremony show? First, that the 30,000 participants who came from all over the country need Hebron just as much as the 500 Jewish residents do. Second, that the main danger to their existence in that area comes, ironically, from their fellow Jews, of the left wing.

## Jailed Hamas suspects enroll at Bir Zeit

By STEVE RODAN  
and MOHAMMED NAJIB

Palestinian Police yesterday allowed two jailed Hamas suspects to leave their cells for studies at Bir Zeit University after a legislator signed a guarantee that they will return nightly to the Ramallah jail.

Palestine Legislative Council member Khater Abdul Khader won the daily release of the two students after he met with Palestinian Police commanders and convinced them that he would be responsible for the nightly return of the detainees.

Abdul Khader told *The Jerusalem Post* that he began his efforts after an appeal by the families of the two detainees, who asked that the PLC member visit them.

"I went to the prison and visited all the political prisoners there," he said. "Then I discussed this matter with the police leadership. In the beginning, we faced several difficulties, because the police said they don't have enough guards to watch them out of jail."

The PLC member, from the Jerusalem district, assured the police commanders that the Hamas detainees would not require guards outside prison. Instead, they would leave every morning for Bir Zeit University and return on their own.

The students were arrested in October in the aftermath of the Hamas bombings in Jerusalem, which prompted a PA sweep of Hamas activists. Hamas leaders said over the last three weeks — in the wake of the assassination of the organization's bombmaker Muhi Sharif — about 300 activists have been arrested.

Abdul Khader said he would not identify the students, saying that Bir Zeit is in Area B, under Israeli security control. Israel has complained that the PA has quietly released Hamas detainees, some of them wanted for attacks on IDF or civilian targets.

The PLC legislator said the detainees are about 20 years old. He added that he wants to widen the practice to all jailed students and teachers in Palestinian prisons.

## AMCHA National Center for Psychosocial Support of Survivors of the Holocaust and the Second Generation PROGRAMS FOR HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY - YOM HAZIKARON LASHOAH V'LEGVURAH

Open House at all AMCHA branches, all day on Yom Hashoah, for visitors, personal conversations and family meetings (all programs are in Hebrew unless otherwise indicated):

AMCHA Jerusalem, 23 Hillel Street, Tel. 02-625-0745

Yom Hashoah Eve, Wednesday, April 22 8:30 p.m. "The Significance of the Shoah in My Life": English language open meeting for survivors and the second generation

Yom Hashoah, Thursday, April 23

9:00 p.m. An evening of stories for Yom Hashoah. At the Habama Theater, 3 Yad Harutzim, 4th floor, Telport (tickets at box office, NIS 30 each).

AMCHA Tel Aviv, 58 Mazeh Street, Tel. 03-566-5701-4

Yom Hashoah Eve, Wednesday, April 22

8:00 p.m. "Yom Hashoah and Me": Meeting for the second generation

8:30 p.m. "What Do the Grandchildren of Survivors Have to Say?"

Meeting for the third generation

Yom Hashoah, Thursday, April 23

11:00 a.m. Dialogue between survivors and sabras

11:00 a.m. "Memories from My Childhood Home": Meeting for survivors, AMCHA Ramat Gan, 80 Bialik Street

4:00 p.m. Dialogue between three generations

4:00 p.m. Dialogue between three generations, AMCHA Ramat Gan, 80 Bialik Street

AMCHA Haifa, 43 Derech Havan, Tel. 04-837-5649

Yom Hashoah, Thursday, April 23

3:00 p.m. Meeting for survivors from the former Soviet Union

6:00 p.m. Dialogue between survivors and the second generation

AMCHA Beersheba, 31 Rehov Ha'avot, Tel. 07-627-0224

Yom Hashoah, Thursday, April 23

9:45 a.m. Open meeting at AMCHA, Beit Vosk, 4 Johannesburg, Ashkelon

10:30 a.m. Open meetings at Moadon Havatkin and Moadon Ha'olim

6:00 p.m. "To Be a Nation in Spite of the Shoah": Program for survivors and the second and third generations.

All events take place in Branches, unless otherwise indicated.

## Local doctors give patients less time

By JUDY SIEGEL

The average primary care physician here receives more clinic patients during fewer work hours, makes significantly less house calls, and puts much less effort into preventing his patients' illnesses and dealing with their psychosocial problems, than his counterparts in eight European nations. However, general practitioners (GPs) here are more likely to check their patients' cholesterol levels and perform mammograms to detect breast cancer and spend time on continuous medical education.

These differences were highlighted in a comparative study by experts from the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev and Jerusalem's IDC-Brookdale Institute, along with data from the Nijvel (Netherlands Institute of Primary Health) Institute in Maastricht.

The study was published in the latest issue of *Harefuah*, the Israel Medical Association (IMA) journal, comparing the answers provided by a sample of 677 Israeli GPs with counterparts in Austria, Denmark, Estonia, Ireland, Holland, Norway, Sweden, and Switzerland who responded to a survey by the Dutch institute.

IMA chairman Dr. Yoram Blachar and other IMA officials were abroad yesterday and not available for comment, except for a statement that they will read the medical journal report when they return and look into the possibility of an "in-depth discussion" of the findings.

The average age of the Israeli respondents was 46.6, which was similar to that in other countries. They admitted to working only 38.5 hours a week, compared to 45-57 weekly work hours in the other countries, where GPs are given

responsibility for patients' welfare round the clock.

Israel had the highest percentage of women physicians responding to the survey — almost 27% — compared to 7% in Switzerland, 11% in Austria and 16% in Denmark.

While Dutch doctors said each week they made 21 house calls and four visits to the hospital and Austrian doctors 28 house calls and four hospital visits, Israelis made only 4.44 house calls and two hospital visits weekly. They were also much less likely to perform simple surgical procedures in their clinic, such as sewing up a wound or removing a cyst from the scalp or an ingrown toenail.

Even though their clinic hours were shorter, Israeli GPs saw more patients a day (34) than GPs in any other country but Austria, making the time each patient had for consultation much shorter.

## THE JERUSALEM POST Out of Touch? (2nd Installment)

Ruth Matar continues interviewing Norman Spector

Publisher of The Jerusalem Post, and former Canadian Ambassador to Israel.

The subject: Does The Jerusalem Post, in the way it reports the news, and in its choice of columnists, provide a positive image of Israel, both here and abroad?

Tonight, Wednesday, April 22, at 9:00 p.m.

ARUTZ 7 - English Program, 97.3 FM radio (97.1 FM in Jerusalem)

or live on Internet, [www.a7.org](http://www.a7.org)

Women in Green

P.O.B. 7352, Jerusalem.

The Jack and Sue Becker PROJECT ODED Jewish Studies Program

### Yom Hashoah Program

Thursday, April 23, 1998 (27 Nisan 5758)

9:00 a.m. Introduction - Rabbi Edward S. Romm  
9:15 a.m. The Aguma in the Talmud and during the Shoah: A Study in the Metamorphosis of Tragedy  
Dr. Pesach Schindler  
10:30 a.m. The Asian Experience and the Shoah  
Prof. Alion Shiloah  
11:45 a.m. The Pilgrimage To Poland Controversy  
Rabbi Yehiel Grenimann

Project Oded is a Jewish Agency supported program.  
התוכנית מיוזמת על ידי משרד החינוך והיהדות  
THE CENTER FOR CONSERVATIVE JUDAISM IN JERUSALEM  
2 Agnon Street, Jerusalem  
Tel. 02-625-6386, Fax. 02-623-4127  
e-mail: [romm@uscj.org](mailto:romm@uscj.org)



# Holocaust Remembrance Day starts tonight

By ELLI WOHLGELERNTER

Thousands of visitors are expected tonight and tomorrow at Yad Vashem in Jerusalem for ceremonies marking Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Day.

The opening ceremony takes place tonight in Warsaw Ghetto Square at 8 p.m., with the participation of President Ezer Weizman, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and other dignitaries.

The one-hour ceremony, including the kindling of memorial flames, will be broadcast live on channels 1, 2, 23 and 33, Israel Radio and Army Radio.

RadioWest will provide a simultaneous translation of the proceedings in English, at 102.8 FM.

Sirens throughout the country will sound tomorrow at 10 a.m., when the country will stand for two minutes in silent tribute to the memory of the six million Jewish martyrs.

A wreath-laying ceremony at Yad Vashem will follow, attended by Weizman, government representatives, the Speaker of the Knesset, the chairman of the Jewish Agency, the chief of staff, the police inspector-general, members of the diplomatic corps, the mayor of Jerusalem, survivors' organizations, schoolchildren, and delegations from all over the country.

Continuing a memorial project first begun in 1989, called "Unto Every Person There is a Name," the public recitation of names of Holocaust victims will be read at sites around the country. Similar readings of names will take place

in the Knesset, schools, universities, youth groups and municipalities.

Weizman and Netanyahu will speak at tonight's ceremony; a flame of remembrance will be lit by Dr. Joseph Burg, chairman of the Yad Vashem International Council; Moshe Sanbar will speak on behalf of survivors; and the chief rabbis of Israel will also participate in the ceremony.

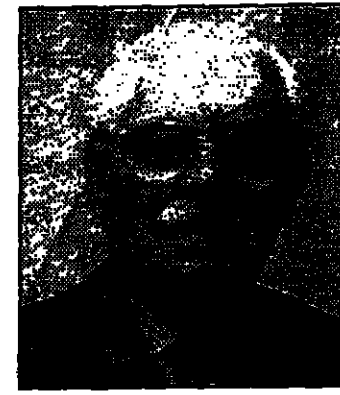
Tomorrow between 10:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., a series of Holocaust films will be screened in the Yad Vashem auditorium.

A memorial service by the Hungarian Immigrants Association will be held at 3 p.m. at the Valley of the Destroyed Communities, and a memorial service for members of the Jewish underground in France will take place in the auditorium at 4:30 p.m.

To mark the state's jubilee year, this year's theme is the contribution of Holocaust survivors to the creation of the State of Israel and their integration into society.

The six people chosen to kindle the memorial flames at tonight's ceremony represent many of the survivors, who chose to rebuild their lives here and join the fight for the establishment of the state.

Prof. Yisrael Gutman was born in 1923 in Warsaw, where he was a member of the underground in the ghetto. He was taken to Majdanek and from there to Auschwitz. In May 1945, he was sent on the death march to Mauthausen. Making aliya in 1947, Gutman published many scholarly books and papers on the



The six people chosen to kindle the memorial flames at tonight's ceremony at Yad Vashem are (clockwise): Prof. Yisrael Gutman, Hanna Bar Yehsa (Rosner), Lt.-Col. (res.) Yoseph Offer, Prof. Elazar Shafir, Dr. Viola Terek and Shoshana Evron.

Holocaust and trained a generation of scholars. He is the chief historian of Yad Vashem.

Hanna Bar Yehsa (Rosner) was born in 1932 in Uzhhorod, Czechoslovakia.

Deported in 1944 to Auschwitz, she was transferred in November to the Hainichen camp in Germany. After surviving the

death march to Theresienstadt in 1945, she made aliya, where she fought in the War of Independence. After the war she helped found Kibbutz Massuor Yitzhak. Later she worked as a principal in a secondary school.

Lt.-Col. (res.) Yoseph Offer was born in 1929 in Oradea Mare, Romania. In 1943, his father was

drafted into the Hungarian Army and disappeared. In May 1944, his family was deported to Auschwitz. From there he was sent to Buchenwald, a work camp in Magdeburg, and then a small aircraft plant.

Liberated from Buchenwald on April 12, 1945, Offer settled on Kibbutz Afikim. He joined the

## Philippine paper terms Holocaust a 'myth invented by Hollywood'

By ARYEN DEAN COHEN

Australian Jews are up in arms over an article published in the leading business daily in the Philippines which claims that "Zionist Jews lied about the story of six million Jews dying in the Holocaust myth, invented by Hollywood."

The op-ed piece, published on April 8 in *Business World*, and written in reaction to the Vatican document on its role during the Holocaust, also claims that Pope John Paul II and Cardinal Edward Cassidy are Jewish.

The article also maintains that Anne Frank's diary is a fake, that there were no gas chambers at Auschwitz, and that "it is impossible for the number of Jewish wartime casualties to be measured in anything but thousands."

Dr. Colin Rubinstein, National Policy Chairman of the Australia/Israel and Jewish

Affairs Council, denounced the article, and demanded that the paper publish an apology. He urged its editors to "totally repudiate the outrageous nonsense and provide its readers with a true analysis of the extermination of six million Jews during the Holocaust."

*Business World's* managing editor, Jose M. Galang, Jr., speaking by phone from the Philippines, said yesterday the use of the material was "an oversight."

"The article was written by a contributor to the paper. Unfortunately, I had no hand in processing that story. I was not in the office when that material was used," he said.

Because articles by the contributor, Erick San Juan, previously were used by the paper, the editor who handled the op-ed page on that day used the material, Galang said.

In a letter to the newspaper, Rubinstein said the article "deeply offended those who survived the Holocaust and insults the memories of those millions who died."

The article is entitled "The Catholic Church and the Holocaust," with a subhead: "Did 6 million Jews really die in World War II?"

Regarding Auschwitz, San Juan wrote: "The truth about Auschwitz is that it was the largest and most important industrial concentration camp, producing all kinds of material for the war industry. Auschwitz also comprised an agricultural research station with laboratories, plant nurseries and facilities for stock breeding, as well as Krupp's armament works. This kind of activity was the prime function of the camps."

He blames reports about mass slaughter of Jews there on reports

from "postwar Communist regimes of Eastern Europe" or information supplied by Polish Jewish groups.

"It is now clear that Zionist Jews lied about the story of the six million Jews dying in the Holocaust myth, invented by Hollywood," San Juan concludes. "Even the emaciated prisoners in posters were not Jews, but Allied prisoners who were starving because of the blockade of ships around Germany during World War II. The Anglo-American armies prevented any shipment of food into Germany."

Galang said the paper was running letters attacking the article, adding that the paper itself would soon "make a statement" about the article itself. Asked whether the statement would explain that the article was false, Galang said: "It seems to be heading in that direction."

## AMCHA hotlines offer help to survivors

By Jerusalem Post Staff

Telephone hot lines designed to provide help for Holocaust survivors and their families on Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Day began operating last night. The hot lines are operated by AMCHA, an organization offering psychological and social assistance to Holocaust survivors and their families.

"Public commemorations and media coverage of the day can awaken painful memories for Holocaust survivors," AMCHA director John Lemberger explained. "The hot lines, staffed by professional counselors, provide a listening ear and an understanding heart."

The hot lines usually draw more than 1,000 calls, with AMCHA staff helping to ease the pain of the callers, and suggesting possible services offered by the organization.

"Last year our hot lines across the country received twice as many calls as they did the previous year," Lemberger said.

The numbers are: Jerusalem: 02-6250745; Tel Aviv: 03-5665701; Haifa: 04-8361692 and 04-8375649; Netanya: 09-8323571; Beersheba: 07-6270224 and a line in Russian at 07-6278242; and Ashkelon: 07-6710545. The lines will be open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. today. AMCHA said there has been a

Hagana, served in the Golani Brigade, and earned his pilot's wings from the IAF exactly six years after he was liberated.

Prof. Elazar Shafir was born in 1924 in Cracow. After escaping from the Plaszow camp, he made his way back to Cracow, from where the Polish underground helped him reach Hungary. While studying chemistry at the Hebrew University, he was drafted by the Hagana. He left his white lab coat on a chair in the laboratory and put his notebooks in a drawer. Following the Six Day War, he returned to Mount Scopus to find his lab coat on the same chair and his notebooks in his drawer, where he had left them 19 years earlier.

Dr. Viola Terek was born in 1916 in Slovakia. She was sent to Auschwitz in 1944, and transferred to the Lichtwerden forced labor camp in Silesia four months later. After the war, her whole family having been killed, she remarried and made aliya, working as a physician in various places. She was among the founders of the Beersheba Medical School.

Shoshana Evron was born in 1936 in Florence. Her father, the chief rabbi of Florence, urged the town's Jews to take shelter. She and her cousin hid in a convent for six months prior to liberation. She reached Israel in 1945 with the help of the Jewish Brigade. In 1945, Evron's mother, who survived and also made aliya, was killed in the convoy of Hadassah employees trying to reach Mount Scopus. Evron later settled in Kibbutz Sa'ad.

## 'Swiss coins may hold clues to missing Nazi gold'

By ARYEN DEAN COHEN

Looted Nazi gold may have been turned into gold coins and sold in extraordinary quantities by Switzerland immediately after the war, under the guise of coins minted in 1935, officials at the Center of Organizations of Holocaust Survivors in Israel said yesterday.

According to the organization, which wants the search for missing Nazi gold continued and survivors given their fair share of the finds, the Swiss government minted and sold huge quantities of 20 franc gold coins from 1945-49.

Basing its claims on the Standard Catalog of World Coins, published in 1985, the center's paper claims that in 1930, 3,372,000 of the coins, known as Goldvrenelis, were sold, and in 1935, 175,000. However, after the war, 39,209,000 of them were sold, meaning that in a four-year period, almost 12 times the amount sold during the Thirties was sold.

Moreover, according to the report, from this huge quantity, 20,009,000 were minted with the sign of L1935B, giving the impression that they were minted in 1935. Only an expert could tell the difference with coins actually minted in that year, when they said 1935B, according to center chairman Moshe Sambar.

However, Swiss embassy officials released a document indicating that the pre-dating was done for legal reasons, to indicate that the coins remained in conformity with legal stipulations regarding their gold content and weight pursuant to federal law on the currency of 1931.

This stipulation prevailed irrespective of the devaluation in 1936, after which, the franc fluctuated between 0.19 and 0.21 grams of fine gold. It is for this reason that the date 1935 was chosen, the Swiss officials said.

They added that until December, 1946, the Swiss National Bank delivered gold exclusively from its pre-war reserves for minting these coins. This stock was exhausted by this time, and the Washington Agreement of May 1946 marked a definitive settlement on the question of gold acquired by the Swiss National Bank from Germany during the war. From that date on, the SNB delivered gold it had acquired after the beginning of the war. There was no explanation for the large amount of coins sold.

Sambar said the coins could be a clue on the trail of an important part of the missing gold looted by the Nazis. He said that until now, the Allies had recovered 336 tons of this gold, 329 of which had been returned to the countries from which this so-called monetary gold was looted. The total amount of gold looted from the Central Banks of Europe is estimated at about 514 tons.

## Where to eat in Israel

### Eilat

**TANDOORI Indian Restaurant** - The only restaurant in Israel where price SHAKES HANDS with QUALITY and quantity smiles. Live traditional Indian dancing daily. King's Wharf Lagoon Hotel. Tel./Fax: 07-493 676, 686 674. Open noon-3:30 p.m.; 6 p.m.-midnight.

### HERZLIYA PITUAH

**TANDOORI Indian Restaurant** - Only restaurant where price SHAKES HANDS with QUALITY and quantity smiles. Buffet Lunch NIS 48 (children NIS 24). Open noon-5 p.m.; 7 p.m.-1 a.m. Mercatim Building, 32 Maskit St. Tel. 09-954 6702, Tel/Fax 954 6768.

**ATLANTIS FISH & SEA FOOD RESTAURANT** - Three Course Business Lunch for only NIS 59 (incl. one glass of wine). Open daily noon-1 a.m. Mercatim Building, 32 Maskit St. Tel. 09-956 8859.

### JERUSALEM

**ANGELO RISTORANTE ITALIANO** - Frommer's 1997 Guide says, "The most superb pasta in the country." Also fresh fish & Roman specialties. Kosher Dairy. Call owners Angelo Di Sagni / Lori Rosenkranz for reservations. 9 Horkanos. Tel. 02-623 6095.

**BIRD OF PARADISE (Old City)** - Fresh home made food - Dairy and vegetarian cuisine, mellow atmosphere in the heart of the Jewish Quarter, live music and poetry. Kosher 56 Chabad St. (above the Cardo) Tel. 02-626 4723.

**DARNA** - Authentic Moroccan Restaurant, KOSHER. Our home is your home. Business lunch, salads, couscous, dessert, traditional mint tea. Only NIS 69, with this ad. Open 12-3 p.m., 6:30-11:30 p.m. 3 Horkanos St. Tel. 02-624 5406.

**EUCALYPTUS** - The taste of Israel from Biblical Days. Excellent meat, fish & vegetarian dishes enhanced by a masterful use of herbs and spices. Luncheon specials. Evening entertainment. Flare reviews. Kosher. 7 Horkanos St. Tel. 02-624 4331.

**KOHINOOR Kosher Indian Restaurant** - Kashrut supervision by Rabbi Yosef Fink. Buffet lunch NIS 49 (children NIS 25) Open 12-4 p.m.; 6 p.m.-midnight. Holiday Inn Hotel, The Crown Plaza. Tel. 02-658 8867, Tel/Fax: 02-653 6667.

**LITTLE JERUSALEM** - The Ticho House. Kosher Dairy & Fish. Open for breakfast, lunch, dinner. Delightful garden setting. Free entrance to the famous Anna Ticho Museum. Live Jazz Tuesday evenings. 9 HaPaz Kook St. Tel. 02-624 4186.

**NORMAN'S STEAK 'N' BURGER** - Freshest burgers, steaks, ribs, chicken, fish, salads and more, grilled to perfection. Family dining. Open during Pessach. Kosher Jerusalem Rabbinate. 27 Emek Refaim, German Colony. Tel. 02-566 6603.

**RESTAURANT MISHKENOT SHAANANIM** - Superb French cuisine for lunch & dinner, 7 days a week. Outstanding wine cellar, elegant setting - spectacular view - private rooms. Located in Yemin Moshe (below the Guest House). Tel. 02-625 1042.

**RIENZI** - Candlelight dining in an elegant decor. Fresh fish and homemade pasta. Kosher. Limestone-Dairy. Open Hol HaMoed Pessach. Open 5:30-11:30 p.m. 10 King David St. (Opp New Hilton Hotel). Tel. 02-622 2312.

A Jerusalem landmark - **RIMON RESTAURANT** Grilled Meats and Middle Eastern cuisine. CAFE RIMON Dairy and Fish. Superb pastry. Indoor-outdoor seating. Glatt Kosher Limestone. 4 Luritz St. (off Midrachov). Tel. 02-624 3712.

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## 'Holocaust Survivors' Radio' shut down

"Holocaust Survivors' Radio" was shut down yesterday, two days before Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Day.

The pirate radio station played Greek music and its programming had nothing to do with the

Holocaust.

"I thought that if I named the station that, it wouldn't be shut down," the station's owner told Army Radio yesterday as he was arrested for the eighth time for operating a pirate radio station.

Police shut down the station, which had been operating out of an apartment in south Tel Aviv and which had been disrupting communications at Ben-Gurion International Airport, as part of a crackdown on pirate stations. (Tim)

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# J'm suburbs protest annexation plan

Surrounding townships say they'd be under capital's control without voting rights

By HAIM SHAPIRO

Leaders of Mevasseret Zion and other communities near Jerusalem are up in arms over what they call a cowardly plan announced yesterday to put their areas under the control of the Jerusalem Municipal authorities, but keep them from voting in Jerusalem elections.

The Interior Ministry is working on the details of the plan according to which the Jerusalem Municipality would serve as an umbrella government for the entire urban area, with the surrounding communities retaining only partial independence for such responsibilities as sewage, garbage collection and water supply.

However, the planning authority would be the Jerusalem Municipality.

Mevasseret local council head Eli Moyal yesterday called the plan a national disgrace and said it constituted a cowardly, cynical and destructive political trick, giving the Jerusalem Municipality planning authority in the area but depriving the residents the right to vote for the Jerusalem municipal council. He said it would give the local councils autonomy, but deprive them of the right to defend their areas from massive building.

"Ehud Olmert fears annexing the residents, who would work against him, and thus an easy formula has been worked out in which Jerusalem annexes the land but not the residents," Moyal said.

Moyal yesterday threatened to call a general strike in his community in an effort to fight the plan.



Hundreds of residents of Jerusalem's outlying communities demonstrate opposite the Prime Minister's Office yesterday in opposition to any form of annexation.

The plan was unveiled at a conference yesterday called by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, with Interior Minister Eli Suissa, Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert, the inter-ministerial directors-general committee on Jerusalem and Knesset Jerusalem lobby members. Hundreds of residents of the outlying communities demonstrated

opposite the Prime Minister's Office during the meeting in opposition to any form of annexation.

Those taking part included residents of Tzur Hadassah, Abu Ghosh and Motza, all of whom fear they are to be included in the annexation plans.

According to Olmert, the issues that would be affected would be

housing, employment, and open space.

However, MK Ofer Pines (Labor), a member of the Jerusalem Knesset lobby, who opposes the plan, said yesterday that there was still plenty of room within Jerusalem for some 30,000 housing units.

Olmert said he wanted to have

the plan passed as law by Independence Day, but Interior Minister Eli Suissa said yesterday that because of administrative problems this was impossible.

Suissa said that at the earliest the legislation could be prepared by Jerusalem Day, May 24.

The municipality spokesman refused to comment on the plan.

## Pollard promises to work with Israeli gov't

By HILLEL KUTTLER

WASHINGTON — Jonathan Pollard assured a visiting Israeli diplomat that while he seeks the government's support in resolving his case, he will work with it in a spirit of cooperation and not conflict.

"I have no intention to manipulate the Israeli government and I prefer to work with it in order to leave here as soon as possible," Pollard reportedly told congressional attaché Yitzhak Oren this week, who was recently tabbed as the embassy's liaison to the convicted spy.

The development evidently is an attempt by both sides to patch up the acrimony that developed after Pollard recently rejected the government's formulation of a public statement. He had demanded Israel acknowledge it hired and handled him while he worked for the US Navy's intelligence bureau.

An Israeli official said that while Pollard's remarks were positive they were not meant or taken as an apology.

Pollard and Oren met for 30 minutes at the Federal Correctional Institution in Butner, North Carolina, the scene of four visits by Israeli ministers over the past four months.

Oren also told Pollard that cabinet secretary Dan Naveh would visit him in the first half of May.

According to an embassy official, Oren and Pollard agreed on "a number of steps that Israel would take publicly and diplomatically" on Pollard's behalf, including the Naveh visit.

Pollard "views positively" the Israeli government's approach to his case and "is convinced that with mutual cooperation, and without going at it head-to-head publicly, the objective can be achieved — his early release from prison."

## New doctors prefer Ichilov over other hospitals

By JUDY SIEGEL

Ichilov Hospital has come out ahead of 19 others as the medical center where most 1998 medical school graduates would like to do their one-year internship.

Out of 296 medical graduates who took part in a Health Ministry lottery, which decides to which hospital they will be assigned, Ichilov took the top spot for the second year in a row.

The government-municipal hospital in Tel Aviv was followed by the Rabin Medical Center in Petah Tikva, Assaf Harofeh in Tzrifin, Meir in Kiryat Sava, Kaplan in Rehovot, Wolfson in Holon, Shaare Zedek in Jerusalem and Carmel in Haifa. The Hadassah-University hospitals in Jerusalem's Ein Kerem and Mt. Scopus were in tenth place. More than half of all Israeli medical research is conducted at the Hadassah hospitals and a third of all graduates studied at the Hebrew University-Hadassah Medical School.

Following Hadassah were Rambam and Bnai Zion in Haifa, Hillel Jaffe in Hadera, Sieff in Safed, Soroka in Beersheba, Bikur Holim in Jerusalem, Ha'emek in Afula, Poriya in Tiberias, Barzilai in Ashdod and the Nahariya Government Hospital.

The ratings were calculated according to the number of graduates who gave their priority list of first to last. The highest-ranking graduates have a free choice of the hospital where they want to work.

The ministry did not offer any explanation for the results. The list may reflect not only the professional levels of hospitals but also the desire of most new doctors to live in the center of the country and their reluctance to work in Jerusalem.

Asked to comment, a Hadassah Medical Organization spokesman said Hadassah's rating could be explained by the fact that most of its graduates come from other parts of the country and, after seven years of study, want to return home. In addition, Hadassah's departments are "very demanding, housing is expensive, and it's more difficult for one's spouse to find a job in the capital than in Tel Aviv, where job opportunities are greater."

## NEWS

in brief

### 96 arrested in car theft plot

Police arrested 96 people suspected of defrauding insurance companies by arranging car thefts. Early yesterday morning, police raided the homes of 115 suspects, arresting 96 of them. Among those arrested are car owners who brought their cars to agents in Gaza who deal in stolen cars. *Itim*

### Tourist boat damages coral reef

The excursion boat *Galaxy* yesterday was apparently swept by heavy waves onto a portion of the Eilat coral reef known as the Japanese Garden, after which it also struck the land bridge to the underwater observatory. Divers from the Nature Reserves Authority were sent to assess the damage, following which the boat captain is to be questioned. None of the passengers was injured in the incident and the *Galaxy* was able to free itself using its second, undamaged engine. *Itim*

### Hundreds of sea horses hatched in captivity

Some 250 sea horses were hatched yesterday at Eilat's underwater observatory, which announced it as a rare event in the marine world. Observatory spokeswoman Michal Lavie said the occurrence of successful hatchings in nature is approximately 1 percent; the observatory has increased this frequency to about 50 percent.

The young sea horses will be kept in an aquarium for about three months before being released into the wild, where they can fend for themselves. The observatory has cooperated with the Nature Reserves Authority in a project to breed sea horses to save them from extinction. *Itim*

### New plan to improve coastal police

Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani yesterday approved a plan to improve police activities along the coast and in Israeli waters. The number of patrol boats will be increased and stations will be established at marinas under the plan, the ministry announced. *Jerusalem Post Staff*

### Psychologists' protest delays special placement

The placement of some 150,000 youngsters in special education programs has been delayed by a protest launched by psychologists serving the municipalities and local authorities, according to Union of Local Authorities in Israel chairman Adi Eldar.

The psychologists are refusing to participate in meetings to arrange placement and to evaluate youngsters for placement for next year, to protest their low wages. Eldar said the youngsters would be severely affected by the protest, and that personal and financial damage would be incurred by thousands of families. He called on the psychologists to halt their protest and enter negotiations with the Finance Ministry. *Aryeh Dean Cohen*

### Bahai to hold eighth world conference

The world Bahai faith is to have its eighth world conference at the Haifa International Congress Center next week. Over 1,000 participants from 163 countries are expected to take part in the gathering, which is held every five years. During their conference, the participants are to visit the recently completed first section of the Bahai Gardens reaching down the slopes of Mt. Carmel from the Bahai shrine to the lower part of the city. *Haim Shapiro*

### Zim officers, inspector charged in diver's death

Two officers of the Zim Adriatic cargo ship and a Transportation Ministry inspector were charged yesterday by the Haifa Magistrate's Court with negligent manslaughter in the death of Israel Navy diver Third Petty Officer Yuval Levy of Haifa last February. The three accused are: Third Officer Najid Nair, 30, from India; ship's engineer Nissim Samuel, 43; and inspector Avi Golan, 59, of Haifa. They are charged with negligently starting the ship's engine and killing Levy with its propeller while he was examining the bottom of its hull. *Itim*

## Dispute leaves two teachers for 350 Ethiopian pupils

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN and Itim

Only two licensed teachers were on hand when some 350 pupils who recently immigrated from Ethiopia showed up for their first day of school at Moshav Bustan's Hofim school yesterday.

Ya'acov Broder, director of the Hatzrot Yassaf caravan site where the pupils are living, said the Education Ministry had refused to allocate the 15 teachers necessary for the school.

Education Ministry officials said they had suggested an alternative plan to have the pupils study at schools in the region, which was rejected by those in charge of the caravan site.

"It's inconceivable that after fights with the Jewish Agency over funding for the school for the Hatzrot Yassaf youngsters the Education Ministry refuses to fund its teachers," Mateh Asher Regional Council Head Yehuda Shavit said.

Broder said the ministry had proposed busing the youngsters

from Hatzrot Yassaf, which is north of Acre, to Kibbutz Lavi, which is near Tiberias, where there are available teachers. He said ministry officials told him the teachers could not be bused to the school, but rather that site officials would have to bus the pupils to Lavi each day.

Dr. Menachem Stern, in charge of state religious schools in the Education Ministry's northern district, said that he had warned caravan site operators not to open the school for the new pupils since there was no budget for teachers.

He said he proposed busing the pupils to Lavi, Meron and Elyakim, whose principals agreed to take in the youngsters. However, he said, the offer was rejected because Hatzrot Yassaf officials thought teachers could be recruited for Hofim.

"Either they can accept my suggestion or have the situation remain as it is until the end of the year, and next year we will distribute the pupils in various schools in the North," he said.



### Question time

Contestants in the World Bible Contest for Youth take a time-out with Chief-of-Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak yesterday at their guest house in Ramot Shapira outside Jerusalem. (Efrain Kibchok)

## Gesher seeks mayoral votes in Kiryat Shmona

By DAVID RUDGE

Gesher is pulling out all the stops in an effort to make a good showing in next Monday's mayoral race and municipal elections in Kiryat Shmona.

Party leader MK David Levy and his brother MK Maxim Levy were the main speakers at a rally attended by more than 500 of the party faithful in the northern town Monday night.

The municipal elections in Kiryat Shmona are seen by some political pundits as a litmus test of Gesher's ability to stand as an independent party.

The elections themselves were brought about by the resignation of Prosper Azran after more than a decade as mayor. Haim Barbevali, a veteran Likud member, was later chosen by the council to hold the post of mayor until elections could be held.

Kiryat Shmona is considered to be a potential stronghold of Gesher because of support for David Levy in the past, when he was still a member of the Likud and subsequently when he forged his own party.

A recent opinion poll in a local newspaper, however, indicated that Barbevali would easily win the mayoral race with as much 48 percent of the vote, with second place

going to independent candidate Leah Erlich.

Gesher's candidate for mayor, former Labor Party member Herzl Ben-Asher, who for years held the education portfolio on the town council, did not get a good showing in the opinion poll.

At the rally last night, David and Maxim Levy issued a joint call to the local electorate in general and Gesher supporters in particular to vote for Ben-Asher in the ballot.

Three other candidates are running for mayor — former municipality spokesman Yoram Even-Tsur (Independent), Dvir Peretz (Third Way) and Meir Marziano (Tsomet).

Barbevali has already reached an agreement with Labor, Shas, the NRP and Yisrael Ba'aliya to support his mayoral candidacy.

Most of the other parties, including Meretz, as well as some of the independents, are expected to support Ben-Asher.

All the main parties, as well as independent lists, will be contesting the 14 other seats on the city council. A good showing by Gesher will give the party a boost for the Histadrut elections, in alliance with Meretz, in June and the main municipal elections in November.

Party officials stressed, however, that the Kiryat Shmona election, although an important test of Gesher's grassroots support, was

not being viewed as a "make-or-break" ballot.

"This is first stage in the process of Gesher running as an independent party in the political arena. This will be followed by the Histadrut elections, the municipal elections and later the Knesset elections," said the party's spokesman.

Despite attempts to play down the importance of the Kiryat Shmona vote, the presence of

Gesher's big guns at the rally in the town on Monday night was seen by analysts as an indication that the party is anxious to do well in its first political outing.

Despite the coalition that has already been established against Herzl [Ben-Asher] in the election for mayor, we hope that we will make some good achievements, which will put the party in good stead for the future," said a Gesher official.



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## Saddam spells it out

The next Iraq crisis is on the way, and it is curiously interesting to see the elements being choreographed like some never-ending ballet from hell.

A close companion of the banality of evil is the boredom of chronicling it. The mass of documentation on Saddam Hussein's Iraq since 1991 would fill several warehouses. Reports on the documentation in the world's serious newspapers would fill another. Public interest in the doings of the Baghdad regime hovers near zero, until a crisis breaks.

Unfortunately, the crises are coming at faster intervals, their noise uncomfortably like the rising and quickening clicks of a Geiger counter approaching a radioactive core.

Will no one rid us of this turbulent beast? It is only eight weeks since UN Secretary General Kofi Annan's cliffhanger trip to Baghdad. It extracted a promise from Saddam to be a good boy from now on and help the UN examine his homework in his presidential palaces.

Yet during this past week, two loud new clicks of the crisis counter rang out. One came from the UN arms inspectors, who reported that access to the palaces had been granted, but (surprise) they had been picked clean of documents, computers, disks, even the furniture.

### Success story

Here's the supporting quote from UN Special Commission (UNSCOM) Chairman Richard Butler: "It was clearly apparent that all sites had undergone extensive evacuation. In all the sites outside of Baghdad, for example, there were no documents and no computers. The buildings were largely empty."

Here's an ever better one — simply translate the language of diplomacy into everyday lingo: "A major consequence of the four-month crisis authored by Iraq has been that virtually no progress in verifying disarmament has been able to be reported. If that is what Iraq intended by the crisis, then, in large measure, it could be said to have been successful." Ouch!

The second crisis click came from the heels of a trained million-man volunteer army marching past the grim dictator at what is now called "one of his rare public appearances."

Yes, it was one of those theatrical fake displays of public enthusiasm so beloved of unloved dictators — and it wasn't. It was a genuine display of Saddam's planning of the next crisis marching inexorably toward us.

### Mr. Malaprop

Saddam is perfectly aware that each turn of the screw on the United Nations with crisis after crisis is weakening the United States response and widening the gap between

Washington and its former Arab allies. Saddam got away scot-free with the last crisis — the first time that diminishing US attacks for violations of Security Council resolutions actually reached zero.

The well-intentioned but naive Mr. Annan provided the fig leaf, in the shape of a square of white paper reminiscent of Chamberlain's after Munich, and words to match. Saying that Saddam was "a person we can do business with" was inappropriate enough to delight Mrs. Malaprop. It was used (correctly) by Margaret Thatcher as her first impression

of Mikhail Gorbachev, but from Kofi on Saddam it could only recall Neville on Adolf.

Six days ago the Revolutionary Command Council and Ba'ath party leadership met in a joint session. These oh-so-independent bodies passed a resolution calling for the immediate and unimpeded implementation of Paragraph 22 of Resolution 687 before the end of this month.

Paragraph 22 basically promises to lift the ban on oil exports when UNSCOM gives the all-clear on Iraq's dirty weapons. The turgid globs of "unanimous" RCC-Ba'ath resolutions are hidden in the intentions of Saddam, as clearly as they were in his own promise in April 1990 to burn half of Israel. He may be a liar, but he means what he says.

### Listen up!

Couched in obscurity, the new resolutions demanded the immediate lifting of the sanctions on Iraq, threatened the "evil, arrogant and malicious enemy" (the US), indicated that Iraq was reexamining its relations with the UN and called on "the Arab nation" to sound the alarm "that it is pointless for Iraq and the Iraqis to be patient any longer" so that "the criminals can play for extra time on this issue."

The statement of the Iraqi ruling puppets even gave us a date for the next start of the crisis, and warned the UN that future relations depend on the Security Council heeding it. "Discussion of the embargo at the end of April must lead to the immediate and undelayed implementation of Paragraph 22 of Resolution 687 as a prelude to the complete and comprehensive lifting of the embargo and all things that come with it."

Clear enough. If not, you may have missed this bit of the statement: "Those of evil ambition will stand guilty of the deaths of our people whose lives were taken away under the embargo and the military operations that were launched under its cover. If they oppose the lifting of the embargo, they — and they alone — will carry the burden of the previous crises as well as the crises to come..." Note the plural.

### Column One



Thomas O'Dwyer

By MARTIN NESIRKY

MOSCOW — Beneath an unwieldy nuclear umbrella, Russia's military is struggling to stay on its feet.

Put simply, if there had been a war last year, the world's largest country simply would not have been ready. Ask Marshal Igor Sergeev — he should know.

"To draw up a budget like Mozambique but demand armed forces like the United States is not entirely logical," the acting defense minister said this month with uncharacteristic venom and an unaccustomed flourish of frank facts and figures.

Apart from the elite Strategic Nuclear Forces and some airborne army troops, he told a military meeting, "there were virtually no units which were combat ready" in 1997. Defense experts say the picture is no better now, a year into President Boris Yeltsin's much-vaunted but criticized reform of what remains of the vast Soviet military machine.

Planes do not fly, tanks rust, sailors go hungry and morale sags for want of training, a sense of post-Cold War purpose and plain old cash. Rivalries between Russia's myriad forces, draft dodging, drug-taking and shooting sprees often make headlines.

There is no need to hit the panic button just yet. Few are predicting total collapse or a coup. But things look grim.

"The situation is critical," said Russian defense analyst Pavel Felgenhauer. "It's the convergence of economic crisis, unorganized demilitarization and an unprecedented morale crisis in the armed forces." Sergeev has certainly helped push the pace of change and cuts in forces but is short of funds, a common problem for Russia's creaking economy.

Only a third of the military's budget allocation was shelved out by Moscow in the first quarter, the marshal said. All but a 10th of that went just on sustaining the forces rather than buying new equipment or funding the reforms.

Russia's armed forces have been allocated around 82 billion rubles (\$13.4 billion), a whopping 16 percent of the overall 1998 budget of 500 billion rubles but plainly not enough. As any manager knows, "downsizing"

# Russia's red alert

The once formidable Red Army has fallen into disrepair



A year into President Boris Yeltsin's much-vaunted reform of the Soviet military, planes do not fly, tanks rust, sailors go hungry and morale sags.

costs money.

It is doubtful that a new government with good intentions, replacing the one Yeltsin sacked last month, can find more cash as it tries to make Russia's overall economic reforms work.

Those people forced to leave the military, recently or after the Soviet withdrawal from eastern Europe, often have no job and no home, although Western countries provide some training and fund housing. Those who remain receive wages months late.

"It's a real burden that leaves us no chance to move," said Sergeev, who is committed to cutting troop numbers by 500,000 to 1.2 million this year on the road to an even smaller, all-professional force with up-to-date equipment.

That road is strewn with political as well as financial obstacles.

"With the well-known weakening of conventional forces, the role of the nuclear deterrent factor increases," missile chief Colonel-General Vladimir Yakovlev told the Krasnaya Zvezda armed forces newspaper last month.

Sergeev, Yakovlev's predecessor, has also made no bones about the tactic of preserving the nuclear

umbrella while other forces reform — critics would say crumbly — underneath.

It is a highly controversial approach.

"Cuning back an army is always unpopular," said Felgenhauer. "But some of the moves Sergeev is making in destroying conventional forces and keeping the nuclear option are of course wrong." Charles Dick, an expert on Russian defense who heads the British-based Conflict Studies Center, agrees the potential ramifications are serious.

"To deal with problems like Chechnya with nuclear weapons does not seem to me to be very sensible," he said, referring to the rebel region where conventional forces were humiliated in a war against separatists. "It's a disastrous policy." Russia's atomic forces — land- and submarine-based missiles and bombs on aircraft — remain relatively well-funded and disciplined. The head of US Strategic Command visited last year and said he was satisfied with Russian nuclear security.

If nuclear forces are in good shape, what about the rest? Take the air force, which is being merged with air defense forces.

Sergeev said half of the aircraft cannot fly. Russian military experts say pilots spend more time sweeping runways than in the air and some work part-time as cabbies.

"Fast jet pilots fly an average of 25 hours a year. The minimum required to maintain flying skills is 120 hours," said Dick. "They are more a danger to themselves than the enemy."

Try the army. Unlike the air force and navy, it has been reluctant to cut back on unit numbers as a way to tackle undermanning that stems from troop cuts and a conscription system that has all but broken down despite tougher new rules.

"There are some units where there are as many officers as there are men," Dick said. "Outside the airborne forces there's really not a lot that is worth having."

"Morale is terribly low," he said, noting that bullying of young conscripts and the fear of being caught up again in a Chechnya-style war was widespread.

"The only people who come in now are those who are too stupid to avoid military service," said Dick.

In the navy, young recruits go

short of food while reports of corruption among senior officers persist, particularly in the Pacific Fleet, a world away from Moscow.

While some Western analysts construct doomsday theories of impending collapse and regional upsets, few say the armed forces are about to implode, mutiny or stage a coup.

"The army is a brittle instrument. Any attempt to use it would break it," said Dick, noting Yeltsin's 1993 assault on the Soviet-era parliament was carried out largely by officers drawn from all around Moscow because ordinary soldiers refused.

But between the extremes of discipline and disorder there lurk many concerns. "You simply cannot talk of the Russian armed forces as a coherent defense force," said Dmitry Trenin, a military analyst at the Carnegie Endowment in Moscow.

Dick said the Kremlin, despite its reservations about the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's eastward expansion, decided the main threat to Russia was internal rather than external and therefore Interior Ministry forces had until recently been better funded.

Interior troops and border guards face the same cash squeeze now. Both have come under fire from Yeltsin, who complained the border guards chief even wanted submarines.

"This will never happen," Yeltsin said. "I won't stand for it." Against this backdrop of risks and challenges for Russia and European security, analysts say there is an important shift.

Last month, Yeltsin appointed Andrei Kokoshin, a civilian, to head a beefed-up Security Council, incorporating the chief military inspectorate and the advisory Defense Council. Its job is to coordinate all defense and intelligence agencies. The Security Council, now covering similar ground to the US national security adviser, is under Yeltsin's chairmanship.

The Kremlin said Kokoshin's appointment to such a prominent position was to better coordinate military reform. He may well have the brief to try to stamp out inter-agency differences.

"Kokoshin is the man to watch," said Dick. "He is going to be a defining figure if he is allowed to be."

## Eastern Germany fertile soil for Neo-Nazis

By FIONA FLECK

MAGDEBURG, Germany — The streets of Olvenstedt, a bleak suburb of high-rise blocks in the east German city of Magdeburg, used to be named after communist heroes who fought in the anti-Nazi resistance during World War Two.

Nine years after the collapse of communism, the names have been changed and the area, one of the city's most deprived, has gained notoriety as a hotbed of right-wing extremism.

Magdeburg is the capital of Saxony-Anhalt, one of five states created in east Germany after unification in 1990. The state, which has

the country's highest unemployment rate of 25 percent and the lowest economic growth, votes on Sunday for a state assembly in a key poll which could set the tone ahead of September's general election.

In a region where neo-Nazis have boasted having established "foreigner-free zones" the chance was too good to miss for Germany's right-wing extremist parties.

With slogans like "Saxony-Anhalt can not pay for the world" and "Criminal Foreigners Out", the German People's Union (DVU) is fighting an aggressive campaign in areas like Olvenstedt, where most people live on state benefits or low incomes.

A survey published last Thursday showed the DVU could be the first right-wing extremist party to clear the five percent hurdle required to enter a state assembly in the east, signalling a threat to the region's democratic development.

Parties like the DVU could well find resonance in sections of the city's youth, but more alarmingly they appear to be gaining support from east Germany's dispossessed middle classes.

"The problem here is not so much with right-wing youth, but with the center of society which thinks in a very nationalistic way," said Guenter Piening, the Saxony-Anhalt state official responsible

for foreigners' affairs.

Despite lacking a membership base in the region, the DVU has spent more than any other party on thousands of leaflets and posters in a faceless campaign that thumps out a message of racial hatred with a barrage of jingoistic slogans.

"Some of what the DVU says is okay," said a 36-year-old shopkeeper, who declined to give his name for fear of reprisals.

"Foreigners who are not working should get out." He said none of the mainstream parties were addressing the problems of east Germans and complained bitterly that foreigners were taking jobs from Germans, sponging off the state and bringing

crime to the region — where the dole and crime were virtually unknown in communist days.

"You get a sense of the mood out there in this shop. I'd say most people who come here would agree with me," he said.

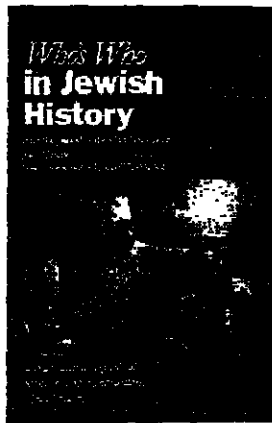
[Chancellor Helmut] Kohl promised us the moon and all we got is factory closures and mass unemployment."

Like the shopkeeper who said he had not decided how to vote, the votes of thousands more disgruntled Germans are also up for grabs in the east where voting patterns are not as established as in the west.

See NAZI, Page 7

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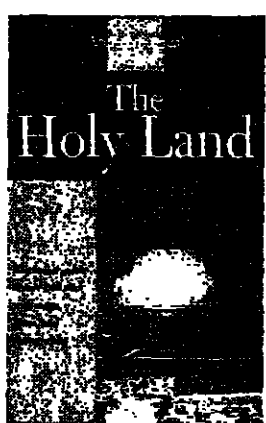
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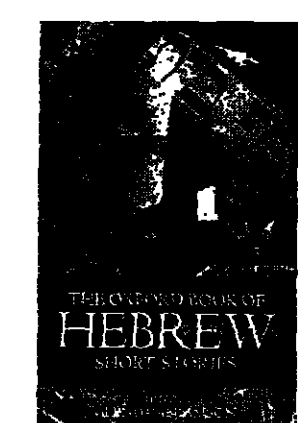
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# Istanbul mayor to jail for 'incitement'

DIYARBAKIR (Reuters) - A quasi-military court yesterday sentenced one of Turkey's most prominent Islamists to 10 months in jail for a speech that fell foul of a secularist crackdown on political Islam.

The state security court in the southeastern city of Diyarbakir convicted Mayor Recep Tayyip Erdogan for "inciting hatred" in an address to Islamist supporters last year in the nearby town of Siirt, according to people who witnessed the proceedings.

Erdogan, Istanbul mayor since 1994, did not appear in court and was not expected to be sent to jail immediately. The case must now go through an appeals process that could take months.

He is widely tipped to succeed former Islamist prime minister Necmettin Erbakan as the national head of Turkey's Islamist movement.

Authorities have jailed Islamist mayors, closed down religious education centers and tightened strict secularist dress codes in an

anti-Islamist crackdown since Prime Minister Mesut Yilmaz's government came to office last June.

The constitutional court banned Erbakan's Welfare Party, the country's largest political group, in January for threatening Turkey's secular order.

Police detained at least 16 leading Islamist businessmen this week for questioning suspected links to political Islam.

"They were taken from their houses at four in the morning by anti-

terror police squads and brought to Ankara for questioning," Erol Yasar, head of an Islamist business group, told a news conference in Istanbul.

Erdogan had denied charges that his speech, in which he compared Islamist supporters to an army, was provocative.

A panel of three judges - one of them a military officer - presides over state security courts, a throwback to the 1980-1983 period of military rule.



Recep Tayyip Erdogan



Colombian air disaster

Police officers carry bodies of passengers from a Boeing 727 that slammed into a mountain near Bogota, Colombia on Monday. 53 people died in the accident. (AP)

## Unions win court support in Australian waterfront war

By PHILIPPE NAUGHTON

SYDNEY (Reuters) - A five-page judge's ruling yesterday may have turned the tide of Australia's waterfront war.

In the two weeks since Patrick Stevedores sent in black-clad guards to reclaim its wharves in the dead of night, the 1,400 union dockers sacked by the company always appeared to have their backs to the wall.

They faced a formidable coalition of business, government and farmers that had prepared carefully before moving to break the Maritime Union of Australia's grip on the ports.

Public opinion was against them. Polls showed an overwhelming majority of voters backing reform to bring Australia's ports up to international levels of competitiveness.

And the rallying cry on picket lines around Australia, "MUA, Here to Stay!" had a slightly desperate ring - until judge Tony North ruled they may have been the victims of an illegal conspiracy.

A small group of dockers listening to North at Melbourne's Federal Court burst into applause when he ruled that Patrick Stevedores should reinstate the workers it sacked on April 7.

Outside the court building the dockers began their chant again, with real conviction. On docks around the island continent, in Melbourne, Sydney, Fremantle and Brisbane, picketing dockers and their supporters took up the chant.

A few hours later, Federal Court judges used a video link-up to grant Patrick a stay on the reinstatement order pending a full appeal hearing today.

But MUA national secretary John Coombs ignored the setback, and used a prime-time television show to taunt his foes - Patrick chief Chris Corrigan and Workplace Relations Minister Peter Reith.

North's decision will not of itself

hand MUA final victory. It is an interim ruling and, if Patrick's appeal is unsuccessful, will be followed by a full hearing on the MUA's accusation it was the victim of an unlawful conspiracy between Patrick, the conservative government and the National Farmers' Federation.

But analysts described it as a powerful moral victory that could give the dockers the breathing space they need where it counts - on the docks itself. They doubt police will clear picket lines from Patrick wharves if the picketers may be given their jobs back anyway.

Julian Teicher, associate professor in industrial relations at Melbourne's Monash University, said the war would be won and lost not in the courts, but at ports in Australia and around the world.

And in that sense, the MUA has gone from strength to strength, bolstered by rolling work stoppages by other unions and a London court decision allowing the International Transport Workers Federation to organize global boycotts of ships handled by Patrick's new, non-union labor.

Also, Patrick's own position is far from strong. It has received only lukewarm support from exporters already concerned about the Asian economic crisis. Shares in its parent, Lang Corp., were suspended on the stock exchange on yesterday after dropping sharply on the Melbourne court ruling.

Teicher believes there will be no winners. Patrick will not defeat the MUA and the MUA will not be able to maintain its stranglehold on the waterfront.

Australia's most divisive industrial dispute this century can still spring many surprises. Farm leaders could yet send thousands of trucks against the picketing dockers. But if the MUA holds its ground, analysts say it can at least avoid being the loser.

## Decisive Russia PM vote scheduled for Friday

MOSCOW (Reuters) - Russian parliamentary leaders agreed yesterday that the State Duma lower house will hold its decisive third vote on Friday on Sergei Kiriyenko, the Kremlin's choice for the post of prime minister.

The 450-seat Duma voted overwhelmingly last Friday to reject Kiriyenko's candidacy for a second time, but President Boris Yeltsin immediately re-nominated him, setting a make-or-break deadline of this Friday.

If the Duma rejects the youthful technocrat a third time, Yeltsin must dissolve the chamber and call an early election.

Speaker Gennady Seleznyov told reporters Yeltsin might visit the Duma in a conciliatory gesture to present Kiriyenko to deputies. The Kremlin said on Monday Yeltsin had no such plans.

"This has not been decided yet but discussions will be held about it," Seleznyov, a senior

Communist Party member, said. The timing of the third vote had been widely expected but the Duma Council, which handles the chamber's agenda and procedures, had to formalize it.

"The vote will be on Friday," Viktor Ilyukhin, a council member and Communist deputy, told reporters. "On Thursday, procedural questions will be discussed."

Many deputies have said they do not want to go through the same process on Friday of hearing an address from Kiriyenko, putting questions to him, listening to party leaders' speeches and then deciding the method of voting.

When the Duma rejected Kiriyenko last Friday, it was in an open ballot that made it more difficult for deputies to vote against party lines. If the third vote is secret rather than open, Kiriyenko will stand a better chance of being approved.

Yeltsin sacked his old cabinet a month ago and named Kiriyenko, an energy minister with just a year in government, to put together a new team and step up the pace of economic reform.

There are signs deputies in the opposition-dominated Duma will change their tune and approve Kiriyenko on Friday rather than vote themselves out of a job.

The leader of the small Agrarian Party yesterday became the latest to hint that, with the stakes so high, the deputies would finally approve Kiriyenko.

"Now it's not about Kiriyenko, the vote is about whether the Duma will continue to exist or not," Nikolai Kharitonov told Itar-Tass news agency.

Almost all the party's 35 deputies voted against Kiriyenko last time.

"The president has made tough use of his constitutional possibilities - common sense suggests that we should keep the two

chambers of parliament operating," he said.

Ilyukhin added spice to the impending face-off on Monday by saying he wanted to urge the Duma to discuss impeaching Yeltsin. This procedure could hold up any dissolution. It would be a desperate last resort needing an unlikely two-thirds majority.

But Ilyukhin, the chairman of the Duma's security committee who has himself appeared resigned to losing the confirmation vote, said on NTV television he expected to present the documents to start the procedure "in the next day or two."

First deputy speaker Vladimir Ryzhkov, a Yeltsin supporter, flatly dismissed Ilyukhin's impeachment bid, which would require the president to be accused of treason or a severe crime.

The Communists say Kiriyenko is too young and inex-

perienced to be number two in the state hierarchy. Other parties have rebelled against what they see as Yeltsin's high-handedness.

Ilyukhin and Seleznyov appeared at the weekend to offer deputies a face-saving justification for backing Kiriyenko by pointing out the cost and unpopularity of an early election.

But party chief Gennady Zyuganov reiterated yesterday in the Siberian city of Krasnoyarsk his party would vote against Kiriyenko. The party will meet tomorrow to discuss tactics.

Former premier Viktor Chernomyrdin said in an interview yesterday he fervently hoped the Duma would not be disbanded.

"Can you imagine what kind of money you'd need for an early election?" he told the newspaper *Kommersant Daily*. "We suffered from the Asian crisis and the fall in oil prices. So there's already a hole in the budget."

## Russians indifferent to political struggle

By PHILIPPA FLETCHER

MOSCOW (Reuters) - While Boris Yeltsin and parliament brace for a showdown this week in the name of the Russian people, the feeling on the streets of Moscow yesterday was that popular wellbeing has little to do with it.

"They're just playing silly games," said Anatoly Chaban, a former sailor visiting Moscow from Saratov in southern Russia.

"Now's not the time to change horses," he said, reflecting widespread disillusionment with the Russian president's shifting allegiances since he came to power in 1991.

Yeltsin bolstered his reputation for capriciousness a month

ago by dismissing the entire government, saying he wanted to inject more dynamism into his market reforms.

Alexander, a state worker drinking beer in the spring sunshine outside one of the string of American hamburger restaurants now open in the former communist capital, said it made no difference who was in the government.

"They just share the money between them," he said. "No one shares anything with us. We'll be sitting on a bench drinking cheap beer as we are now, whoever they put in."

Yeltsin insists parliament must approve his choice for prime minister. 35-year-old Sergei Kiriyenko. He says Kiriyenko, previously energy minister, is

the only man who can improve on the job done over the past five years by the stolid Viktor Chernomyrdin.

But communists and nationalists who dominate the State Duma lower house have rejected Kiriyenko twice, complaining they were not consulted by the Kremlin leader and criticizing his young technocrat nominee for his lack of experience.

If they turn Kiriyenko down in a third vote, scheduled for Friday, the Duma will be dissolved and an election called, turning weeks of uncertainty into months.

More than 16,000 Russians telephoned the Itogi current affairs program on Sunday to say the Duma should back down and approve Kiriyenko, almost

twice as many as those who said parliament should reject him or seek a compromise.

An opinion poll conducted by the same program among 1,500 people across Russia showed a growing liking for the baby-faced acting prime minister, with 39 percent approving of him compared with 26 percent

week before.

But those interviewed in Moscow yesterday were skeptical.

"It's not a question of liking him or not liking him. We're not going to a dance," said Rusov. "We need to know his potential. Perhaps he has some, but even if he's really able, he still needs

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## NAZI

Continued from Page 6

Magdeburg has become tainted following a highly-publicized series of attacks on foreigners by gangs of marauding skinheads.

The attacks include a notorious incident in which a gang of 20 skinheads chased African asylum-seekers through the city, beating them with baseball bats.

"These racist attacks have done us terrible damage," said Piening, involved in community and school projects to break down widespread suspicion and prejudice toward foreigners.

"Our problem is that we have racism without any foreigners. Hardly anyone here ever met a foreigner," he said. "In the communist days they were prohibited contact with foreigners, the few foreigners who lived here were strictly ghettoized."

Unlike thousands of "guest-workers" who flocked to west Germany after the war, foreigners here were the Soviet military - widely despised as forces of occu-

pation - and Soviet allies, such as Cubans, Palestinians and Vietnamese contract workers.

Foreigners constitute less than two percent of the population in Saxony-Anhalt, compared to an average eight to nine percent in any west German state. In the population of 2.7 million, only about 45,000 are foreigners.

Cornelia Schmalz-Jacobson, the German government official in charge of foreigners' affairs, expressed alarm in her annual report last year at neo-Nazi claims to have created foreigner-free zones in some 27 towns across east Germany, which they called "liberated zones".

The findings raised fears of resurgent neo-Nazism after a wave of racist violence following unification. But Piening criticized the media for seizing on what he said was a "megalomaniac boast" not borne out in reality.

Ovenstedt may well be included on lists on the Internet of "foreigner-free" zones. There are no foreigners here. But then, there never really were any.

Skinhead venues such as Neu

Oven, a cafe in the 1970s-style concrete housing estate, or the Brunnen Club, a youth club in a former kindergarten where skinhead rock groups play, could hardly tempt an outsider in search of entertainment.

Police report several cases of neo-Nazis caught making the Hitler salute and shouting racist slogans. The youths dress like skinheads in areas like Ovenstedt because, as Piening put it "Skin is in."

"I'd say only 20 percent of most of skinheads are right-wing radicals in Ovenstedt," said a 37-year-old taxi driver who did not want to be identified. "The rest just follow the herd." But the danger is perceived by many residents as real.

"The government must be careful, otherwise we could have a situation like the one we had in 1932 which led to the Second World War," said unemployed engineer Hans-Guenther Wollentin, referring to the mass unemployment that was one of the factors that helped Adolf Hitler's Nazi party to power in 1933. (Reuters)





### Malaysia's thirst for water

Drought-stricken Malaysians line up at a water truck yesterday during the country's worst drought in decades. Nearly two million people near the capital, Kuala Lumpur, had their taps turned off this week. (AP)

# Enshrining Oklahoma's carnage

By JON MORGAN

OKLAHOMA CITY - Nine-year-old Trevor Anthony Estep of Rio Vista, Texas, left a fluffy brown teddy bear and a note: "I just had a nice trip to Walt Disney World with my family and I wanted to share a toy in remembrance of the children who died here." David Nu Havun of Syracuse, N.Y., left a business card for "Emily's Foundation," a group he created to help grieving parents.

Don Leonard's widow and children crafted a wreath festooned with plastic rabbits and carrots to commemorate the dead Secret Service agent. Attached were photos of Leonard and a note from his children, "the five wild baby rabbits you nursed." "We miss you and we love you," it reads.

From grieving widows to anonymous mourners, thousands of people are making pilgrimages to the former site of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building, where 168 people were killed by a truck bomb three years ago Sunday. Many are leaving tokens of remembrance, from stuffed animals and laminated poems to faded plastic flowers and children's artwork.

In so doing, they have converted the crime scene - now a grassy lot surrounded by a cyclone fence - into a powerful national shrine. And they are signaling a new way of grieving in America, where the most private hurt is now finding public expression.

"It means that the deaths in Oklahoma have become, like the

deaths in the Holocaust, public deaths that count not only for the families but the nation," said Ed Linenthal, a professor of religion and American culture at the University of Wisconsin at Oshkosh who is writing a book about the Oklahoma City bombing and its aftermath.

An official memorial is planned at the Murrah site, which will feature 168 stone chairs, 19 of them pint-sized in honor of the 19 children killed. Until it is built, an archivist has been hired to collect and preserve everything associated with the incident, including all the material left on the fence - about 35,000 items so far.

"We want future generations who want to see this, and see what happened here, to be able to," said Jane Thomas, the museum-trained archivist working as the curator for the Oklahoma City National Memorial Foundation.

She makes weekly trips to the fence in a small pick-up truck. She carefully culls the material, leaving up indefinitely anything left by family members but bringing down the rest after 30 days.

Everything is saved, from elegant poetry to mundane key chains.

In an unmarked warehouse on the edge of town, Thomas catalogs and stores the items. There are boxes labeled "gloves," "dog items," "T-shirts," and "Golf items." Because of the children killed, many people leave toys. These are sorted into boxes marked "rattles," "plastic toys," and "plastic keys." There is a wall covered with hats, shelf

after shelf of teddy bears, and three drawers full of hundreds of identical, polyester bracelets inscribed "WWJD?" The letters stand for "What would Jesus do?" - a question some Christians are using to help guide their lives.

Occasionally, a family member of one of the victims will call Thomas and ask her to save something. For example, Jim Thompson, the younger brother of a 47-year-old Social Security Administration worker lost in the blast, asked Thomas to retrieve the Eagle Scout shirt he had hung on the fence.

Thompson, who had earned his Eagle rank with his big brother's help, wrote on the shirt in black marker: "In memory of my Brother, Mike and all we shared growing up." Survivors of the tragedy say the remembrances left at the fence mean a lot to them.

"It shows us the national exposure of the whole thing. It shows us locally that there are about 260 million Okies," said Martin Cash, a retired Veterans Affairs benefits administrator.

He lost his eye in the blast and now has only limited use of his left wrist. A gray plate covers a hole the size of a quarter in his skull.

He's pleased with the design selected for the official memorial. But part of him wishes the scarred building could have been left as it was, with the fence and its memorabilia surrounding it.

"Hopefully the fence affects people in a way that they will never forget what happened here. We don't want any complacency," Cash said. Cindy McLain, a Labor

Department employee who crawled from the rubble after the explosion, said she is struck by the site's attraction. So many people come to town looking for the site that highway signs have been put up directing them to the right location.

"Unless the weather is horrible there are always 15 or 20 people there. What we understand from that is how this was not just our tragedy but the nation's tragedy," McLain said.

Nu Havun and his wife stopped by the fence a few weeks ago while driving through town. He stuck his business card in the fence, in part, to let survivors know they weren't forgotten.

"It just broke my heart. I could not hold back the tears. I was overwhelmed by the number of people from all over the world that had been there," he said.

Linenthal, the Wisconsin researcher, said such interaction at a site of tragedy can be healthy.

"People come for all sorts of reasons: curiosity, respect. The fence has become a part of what people will remember of the tragedy because people have transformed it to a commemorative event," said Linenthal, who wrote *Preserving Memory: the Struggle to Create America's Holocaust Museum*. A similar phenomenon took place at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, where combat boots, purple hearts and other items began showing up as soon as the black granite monument opened in 1982. Park Service rangers couldn't bear to throw out the material, so they began

keeping it in cardboard boxes.

The collection is now an attraction in its own right. Items have been put on display at the Smithsonian Institution and sent with a traveling exhibit about the war. Books have been written about it.

Jan Scruggs, the president and founder of the Vietnam Memorial Fund that built the memorial, said after it opened he began to see more wreaths and other displays at roadsides after fatal car accidents.

"It's all good. This is a communion between the living and the dead and a way for the living to honor the dead and ease the burden," Scruggs said.

Leaving remembrances to the dead is common in many cultures. Followers of the Japanese Shinto faith, for example, are encouraged to bring gifts to cemeteries to honor deceased ancestors. Latinos offer gifts to the departed on an annual "Day of the Dead." Jewish custom calls for mourners to leave stones at graves.

"It's becoming an American custom. It helps us grieve. We don't know what to do and we need to do something, so we give some physical token," said Aliza Kolker, a professor of sociology and anthropology at George Mason University at Fairfax, Va., who studies grieving and memorials.

Such expressions are especially cathartic when tragic events claim victims before their loved ones can say goodbye, she said. Leaving a token can bring closure. "We are evolving new patterns of grieving," Kolker said.

(Baltimore Sun)

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# 'Scream 2' – you'll never guess whodunnit

By PAMELA MITCHELL

Following the huge cult success of *Scream*, details of the storyline to the sequel, *Scream 2*, were shrouded in mystery.

Before filming began, the cast and crew of *Scream 2* signed confidentiality agreements. The script was printed on brown paper, to deter photocopying, and handed out scene by scene so that even the actors didn't know who the killer was until they shot the movie's ending.

American movie critics and entertainment reporters who attended a sneak preview in New York City were encouraged to keep mum and not reveal the identity of the murderer.

Now that *Scream 2* has opened worldwide, horror fans are already acquainted with the denouement. And they're probably impressed by director Wes Craven, who has made a film just as scary as the original fright flick, if not scarier.

The movie's setting has moved from the town of Woodsboro to Windsor College, where Sidney Prescott (Neve Campbell) and her surviving friends are students. Tabloid reporter Gale Weathers (Courteney Cox) has written a best seller, *The Woodsboro Murders*, and the movie begins with the night its film version, *Stab*, hits the big screen.

Characters back for another round include:

Prescott — Again she's being stalked by a serial killer who loves scary movies. Says Campbell, "I didn't want to be the victim. In a real situation like that, if it was a true story, you would either be suicidal or you would go to the other extreme and say, 'I choose not to be the victim.' That's where I decided to go with it."

Weathers — She proved she's no friend to Sidney with her book. When someone is killed at the premiere of *Stab*, she heads straight for Sidney's school to get the story.

Dewey Riley (David Arquette) — Deputy Dewey is back, with a limp, after barely surviving his investigation of the Woodsboro murders. He rushes to protect Sidney after hearing about the bloody movie opening.

Randy Meeks (Jamie Kennedy) — Still alive and loving movies, he's studying film at Windsor College.

Cotton Weary (Liev Schreiber) — In *Scream*, he was falsely accused of killing Sidney's mother, but Gale's book helped free him. He's hanging around the college, looking to grab his 15 minutes of fame.

Fresh meat: Hallie (Elise Neal)

— Sidney's unfortunate roommate.

Cici (Sarah Michelle Gellar) —

This sorority girl could use a little help from the vampire-slaying Buffy.

Derek (Jerry O'Connell) —

After Sidney got dissed in a major way by her man in *Scream*, new boyfriend Derek is an automatic suspect.

Mickey (Timothy Olyphant) —

A freaky Quentin Tarantino wannabe joins the debate on the quality of movie sequels.

Maureen and Phil (Jada Pinkett and Omar Epps) — This couple catches *Stab* on the big screen and heatedly points out the dearth of blacks in scary movies.

Will the *Scream* movies end up like the *Friday the 13th* series, never dying but growing weaker and weaker with every sequel?

"As far as I'm concerned, it ends with *Scream 3*," says screenwriter Kevin Williamson, who adds that he always conceived of *Scream* as a trilogy.

Campbell hasn't signed on to *Scream 3* (not that we're saying whether her character survives *Scream 2*) and isn't sure she will.

"I don't know what they can do with her (Sidney) at this point," she jokes. "She'd be psychotic. The entire movie will take place in an insane asylum."

(The Hartford Courant)



In the sequel to the cult hit 'Scream,' Sarah Michelle Gellar plays Cici, a sorority girl who could use a little help from the vampire-slaying Buffy.

## Memorials in music

By MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

Local composers are continually influenced and inspired by the Jewish history and culture to write music that in one way or another is related to the Holocaust and its never-ceasing impressions on our daily reality and collective memory.

Two premieres today, each different in scope, will present two ways in which the post-Holocaust generation of composers deals with the topic.

At the official memorial ceremony at Yad Vashem tonight, popular singer Meital Tzoref will premiere a new version of the famous song "Sachki Sachki," composed for her by Oded Zehavi, one of Israel's most captivating young composers, a man who knows how to write for theater and film as much as he does for the concert stage.

The fact that a classical music composer, who has always been inspired by the history of our land on the one hand and by local poetry on the other, uses a known poem and sets it to music for a singer from the popular music world, promises a most beguiling combination. The song will be performed live at Yad Vashem and broadcast on national radio and television.

Earlier today (2 p.m. on the Voice of Music), music lovers will be able to hear the premiere performance of the 55-minute requiem by young Russian-born composer Zlata Razdolina, based on *The Song of the Murdered Jewish People* by Itzhak Katzenelson.

The composer's most famous

opus to date is her requiem based on a poem by great Russian poet Anna Akhmatova, which has already been performed at the Kremlin in Moscow and later in Finland, Sweden, Norway, the Czech Republic, the US and Israel.

Razdolina's repertoire of over 600 songs and romances, most of which she performs herself, set to music poems by leading Soviet poets.

Since immigrating to Israel in 1990, she composed the music for Uri Barabash's television docudrama *Kastner's Trial* and began composing song cycles based on the works of well-known Israeli poets.

Razdolina's music is very communicative, lyrical and dramatic, even if at times, as a recording of this new work suggests, too emotional. She writes from the heart with the overall dramatic picture in front of her. And the music, which is also folk oriented and very Jewish in its consciousness, even if it does not always sound totally original, is very effective.

It seems as if Razdolina's aim in this new opus is to raise a breathing memorial to the tradition and culture which the Nazis tried to destroy and which has emerged even through the most horrible of times. The way this young composer — who grew up in a land in which freedom was a dream and antisemitism a daily occurrence — deals with the Holocaust is intriguing.

Hopefully this work will find an orchestra willing to present it live so music lovers will be able to experience the magnitude of the composition in the concert hall and not just on the radio.

## 'Murphy Brown' signs off

By JUDITH MICHAELSON

There was a jumble of emotions at the filming of the last half-hour of the one-formidable *Murphy Brown* — and an unintended sadness to its final lines.

After 10 seasons, 18 Emmys and 245 episodes, the CBS series that intermingled laughter with serious, smart story lines — and was, at its 1992 ratings peak, the talk of the US and more than a footnote to a presidential campaign — is coming to a close.

Not with a bang as *Seinfeld* is doing, but rather like some other series, petering out at the end of a long and, in this case, honored run.

In the last scene, there is Candice Bergen as the indomitable Murphy, standing on an inner balcony in her Washington townhouse, saying proudly that 30 million viewers "tune in to see me every week," as she anchors the weekly news-magazine *FYI*.

Yet in its ninth season *Murphy Brown* averaged less than half that — 14.4 million viewers. And thus far this year, it has averaged 10.5 million viewers, placing it in a tie for 76th place among prime-time series.

(In the US, the series, which airs on Monday nights, will climax with an hour-long finale May 18.)

An audience of family and friends, including CBS Television president Leslie Moonves, watched recently as the *Murphy Brown* core cast was introduced



Candice Bergen as single mother Murphy Brown

before the final taping at Warner Bros. Studios — the actors all appearing to work hard at self-restraint.

Faith Ford — the ever-perky Corky Sherwood — walked out head held high, tissue in hand. Charles Kimbrough — the team's stuffy veteran anchor Jim Dial — bowed his head. Joe Regalbuto — Frank Fontana, Murphy's best buddy, the investigative reporter with lousy self-confidence — fairly jumped out onstage, then turned and hugged Kimbrough. Lily Tomlin — *FYI*'s acerbic exec-

utive producer, Kay Carter-Shepley, for the last two seasons — clapped hands high over her head, then blew kisses to the audience. And finally there was Bergen — who is so identified with her eponymous role as the fearless, wisecracking newswoman that people sometimes slip and call her Murphy.

In this last season, Bergen gave new dimension to Murphy's persona as her character battled breast cancer.

The actress bowed and was suddenly shaking. It first appeared that she was laughing — until Tomlin put her arm about her shoulders and Bergen dabbed at her eye. But that blip of emotion was quickly over, and the actors went to work.

Appropriately, the last episode was written by Diane English, the series' creator and its executive producer during its first four seasons. English has a cameo role as a nurse who talks to Murphy as she comes out of anesthesia. Suffice to say, Murphy undergoes surgery.

Others in the hourlong finale — the first half-hour was shot a week earlier — include Julia Roberts as herself; Bene Midler as Murphy's 93rd secretary; Frances Bergen, who is Candice's mother, as Murphy's mother; reporter Mike Wallace as himself; executive producer Marc Flanagan; Robert Pastorelli reprising his role as house painter Eldin; a grinning, wordless George Clooney; and Alan King in the role of God.

Murphy gets her dream wish —

she interviews God.

At one point, English, standing off to the side, was asked whether she thought then-vice-president Dan Quayle's attack on Murphy for having a baby out of wedlock, was the series' high point.

"No," she replied. "It was the low point."

When their work was done, cast members did marathon quick-take interviews with print and TV reporters. Cake and champagne went untouched as they sat close to one another on Murphy's living room couch.

"The last show was very hard," Kimbrough said. "We all wanted it to be special. It's our last chance to get everything right."

"We were all kind of emotional basket cases for a while today," Ford said. "We didn't think we could get through it. We kept rehearsing, rehearsing, rehearsing today. We actually did a little rehearsal all by ourselves in the dinner break."

Part of the problem, she said, was that the actors didn't receive the penultimate scene in the newsroom bullpen, in which their characters share their feelings toward one another, until the evening before the last ever episode was shot.

The other issue, Tomlin explained, was that what they were saying before the cameras mirrored their personal feelings: "In the context of the show, we were going to continue *FYI*. In reality, we were saying the same kinds of things" they were feeling as the series ended.

Said Regalbuto: "When Candice says that last line in the bullpen — that she thanks God for the gift of giving her *FYI* — that was the killer. It was hard looking at her when we were sitting around the table. Because we all [feel that way]. This has been a life-changing experience. It's been a joy beyond words."

Bergen, who seemed content to let the others do the talking, called *Murphy Brown* a gift and said the scene was so "beautifully written" in summing up their feelings that the "challenge was just to get through it."

Asked what she would be doing the next day, Bergen said she planned to take her 12-year-old daughter, Chloe, to a track meet and probably a movie. Then she'd go to the cast wrap party Saturday night — "and I'll probably be in a coma on Sunday."

(Los Angeles Times)

## 'The composer of opposition' to the Nazis

### CLASSIC DISCS

This is an appropriate time to look at the music of various composers who lived through the Holocaust period and used their music to demonstrate against the terrible horrors of that era.

Granted, there is an abundance of music to which we refer today as "forbidden," "degenerate" music, music that the Nazis did not allow to be performed, music that is very frequently recorded these days.

Then there is the music of the Jewish composers who perished in the Nazi concentration camps, music which is being performed more frequently in our day and age.

Not many music lovers are familiar with the name of Karl Amadeus Hartmann (1905-1963), a fine German composer whose music is beginning to reemerge in concert halls and

recording studios.

Karl Anton Rickenbacher, the Swiss conductor who has visited Israel several times, said that Hartmann was "the composer of opposition during the Nazi regime. He went into inner exile writing out all his horrors in seven symphonies."

During the Second World War he was hidden on his in-laws' farm. His only chance to survive was to be forgotten completely. He never met any other musicians, but he is the true successor of symphonic music after Bruckner and Mahler.

Listening to a disc of Hartmann's music conducted by Rickenbacher himself (Bamberg Symphony, Koch Schwann 3-1295-2) is an exciting musical experience on both a professional and an emotional level. The disc features three works — the second symphony, the *Tragic Symphony*, and a vocal opus which is based on Giraudoux's *Sodom and Gomorrah*.

What impresses you on a first hearing is the powerful rage that

is crystallized within the music. It is rage combined with anger and an element of fear as well, and the music says it all.

Heard out of context, one might not immediately associate the composer with the time he lived in, but it is impossible to miss the rage and anger that engulf his work.

*The Sinfonia Tragica* was composed in the late 1940s but premiered only on May 20, 1989, after Andrew D. McCredie discovered the score in the archives of the Belgium Radio and Television in Brussels.

Since then, the symphony has been performed in many major music centers throughout the world, including the Salzburg Festival.

In this symphony, Hartmann quotes freely from compositions that were banned by the Nazis, including works by Berg, Hindemith, Mahler, Bartok and Stravinsky — his personal homage to these composers and his outspoken protest against the regime.

The second symphony, composed in one (adagio) movement, is also an opus full of anger. Although one can very well sense the horrors of the time in Hartmann's music, there is no real sense of despair here; rather, there is an outcry to tackle history and confront it.

In both cases, Rickenbacher leads his Bamberg Symphony with precision and drive, creating an overall impressive sound but, even more, a loving homage to a musician whose symphonic language is very exciting.

The scenes based on *Sodom and Gomorrah*, which were written in 1961 for Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau, are performed with dramatic intensity by Siegmund Nimsgern. This, according to McCredie, is "a visionary and apocalyptic plea and warning to humanity against the self-destruction of a world that is blinded by its own scientific, medical and technological discoveries and accomplishments."

Hartmann himself said, recalling the events of 1933, "In that year I realized it was necessary to

set down a confession not out of despair or fear for that regime but out of confrontation."

It is interesting to compare Hartmann's attitude to that of Shostakovich, whose 10th symphony will be performed next week by the Haifa Symphony Orchestra.

Shostakovich, too, lived in a time of human repression. He, too, disappeared occasionally from the public eye to create in private.

But Shostakovich, from time to time, consented to the demands of the regime and wrote the so-called "glorifying" and entertaining music asked of him. But he also wrote music which was a sort of a confession of the time he lived through, a confession that, like Hartmann's, is on some occasions not very easy to listen to.

All in all, a disc which is not always easy to listen to but a first-rate musical performance of compositions one should hear for their own sake as well as for the sake of its composer who used his art to express his feelings.

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## Two economies

Judging from the Labor Ministry and the chorus that would echo its pronouncements, the sky is falling. Any data signaling a possible increase in unemployment must be taken seriously. But the 6.5 percent increase in job-seekers may or may not be reflected in a similar increase in long-term unemployment. In any case, the government must not allow itself to be stampeded into prescriptions that will make matters worse.

Once again, supposed representatives of workers' interests, such as the Histadrut's Amir Peretz, are pointing a finger at the successful fight against inflation as the culprit for unemployment. "The victims of the suppression of inflation are tens of thousands of new unemployed, who live in uncertainty and lack of hope," Peretz declared, while calling for spending an additional NIS 2 billion on infrastructure and other employment-generating projects.

Why anyone claiming to represent workers would mourn the demise of inflation – the most regressive tax imaginable on the weaker sectors of society – is hard to understand. There is, however, a strong argument for increasing infrastructure spending, although not in the manner Peretz is advocating.

In his annual presentation of the Bank of Israel's report on the economy, Governor Jacob Frenkel called upon the government to shift priorities in the next budget toward greater infrastructure spending. Frenkel is right that it is not enough to tame inflation and cut the budget; the balance within the budget must be changed for real growth to ensue. But it is precisely the "social lobby" that will fight to protect transfer payments tooth and nail, while government ministers concentrate on protecting their own budgets.

To combat these powerful forces against required reforms, the government needs to say the truth: the Israeli economy is not collapsing, it is in transition from the closed, incestuous, quasi-socialist, government-dominated economy of past decades to an open, world-class, high-technology-dominated player in the global marketplace. While other countries might have much to fear from such a transition, Israel could not be better positioned. Already, Israel's high-tech sector has blossomed despite the many economic distortions that have yet to be correct-

ed. Just last year the high-tech sector hit \$5 billion in exports – representing over 14 percent growth in just one year. Israel has by far the greatest number of high-tech start-up companies for its size than any other country, and even approaches the number of US start-ups in absolute numbers. The announcement that Microsoft is investing \$7.5 million in a new Israeli venture capital fund – the company's first investment ever in a venture fund – should not come as a great surprise.

At the same moment as Israel's new economy fills the newspapers with advertisements begging for software engineers and many other high-paying jobs, the old economy is producing increasing unemployment. Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman is right to describe the unemployment problem as a serious one, but a function of what is fundamentally a healthy and necessary transition. Ignoring or resisting, let alone reversing, the transition from older labor-intensive industries to the capital and knowledge-intensive world of high-tech is not the solution. If anything, the factors that have been holding the transition back should be addressed.

As a prominent Hebrew University economist, David Levhari, pointed out on Monday, "When Netanyahu came to power he talked like Thatcher, but he hasn't acted like Thatcher." Levhari correctly points out that the government is not breaking up monopolies at a significant pace, allowing foreign banks to enter the Israeli market, or privatizing in a way that increases competition and efficiency. Even the much ballyhooed currency liberalization could be vitiated by the imposition of high taxes on transactions that are supposedly permitted.

All transitions are painful, and economic transitions can be especially so. The rise in unemployment is hitting the Israeli Arab sector particularly hard – and the Beduin in Rahat, the biggest Beduin town, especially so. It would certainly help, as Neeman suggests, if the number of foreign workers were reduced. Funding for retraining should be substantially increased, because it is essential to help people transform themselves into full participants in the new economy. But at the end of the day, the only real solution for such transitional pain is to speed the transition, not to stand in one place – or worse, slow it down.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### VITUPERATIVE YOSEF

Sir, – I was revolted by the statement of Rabbi Ovadia Yosef relating to the state-sponsored religious education system.

I have four children, three boys and one girl who have produced 11 children. All my children and grandchildren are products of the religious education system which Yosef deems in such vituperative terms. They are all observant, they have all served in the army, all continue to attend regular Talmud and Bible classes while being gainfully employed in various productive occupations. Should Israel, Heaven forbid, be again involved in war, they will all play their part and if need be put their lives on the line together with tens of thousands of young Israelis.

I wonder how many of Yosef's

much vaunted graduates of his education system can claim the same contribution to Israel. But this really is of little importance to Yosef, who hides his face in a book when the national anthem is played at any gathering at which he happens to be present. His disciples will no doubt follow his sterling example of disdain for the state, its army, its government, its judicial system etc.

The norms of *derech eretz* seem to have escaped the worldview of the learned rabbi while the Talmudic dictum that scholars bring peace around the world will surely not include Rabbi Yosef.

YAACOV LEVINGRAD

Jerusalem.

### SELF-MADE

Sir, – Soul-searching? Yes, by all means. There are many reasons for it.

But the "second part" of the Balfour Declaration is not one of them, despite what Lillian Cohen writes in her letter "Soul-searching" (April 10).

The sorry situation of the Palestinians is all self-made. Beginning with their refusal of a state of their own, followed by a long, long series of missed opportunities to achieve a fruitful co-existence with Israel, on to the present day, when we see our partner in the "peace process" burning our flag day by day, chanting with faces contorted by hatred, slogans for our destruction.

AVI SCHNITZER

Holon.

### STARRY-EYED OPTIMISTS

Sir, – Can there still be naive and starry-eyed optimists who cannot accept that the Palestinians have embarked on a campaign to project moderation and conciliation, while at the same time permitting (or perhaps even promoting) hostile and inciteful programs on Palestine TV, depicting young children aspiring to be suicide bombers and martyrs?

This flagrant abuse of American goodwill and taxpayer dollars cannot be condoned and defended by Arafat's sycophants and apologists in the US, Europe and even Israel.

FAY DICKER

Brooklyn, NY.

### SECULAR FAILURE

Sir, – One fact seems to have been overlooked in the protests against the inadequate confession of sins by the Church for its failures during World War II: The Holocaust was perpetrated not in the Middle Ages nor in ancient Rome, but 150 years after the French Revolution in a thoroughly secularized West.

World War I, the first exercise of massive technological slaughter, and the subsequent Communist and Fascist systematic exterminations of "undesirables" were all the products of secular ideologies.

Is it possible that the uneasy conscience of modern secular men prefers to shunt his responsibility for crimes of omission and commission on to the church as a convenient scapegoat?

When shall we expect a document of confession from secular humanists for their one-and-a-half centuries of massive failures to produce solutions to human evil, and their own introduction of novel forms of evil?

MENAHEM BENHAYIM

Jerusalem.

### REGEV'S LESSON

Sir, – It was nice to see a refreshing article by Rabbi Uri Regev, "The historic lesson of Pessah" (April 16), describing the meaning and purpose of the prayers for this holiday and the observances of rituals that touch our spiritual lives.

Let's hope that he can influence his sect of followers to incorporate the values from Torah to include not only what he detailed, but laws of kashrut, intermarriage and conversion as well.

PHILIP ALLEN

Jerusalem.

## FROM OUR ARCHIVES

50 years ago: On April 22, 1948, The Palestine Post reported that at the UN the Jewish Agency attacked the US proposal for a temporary Trusteeship for Palestine as an "irresponsible fantasy."

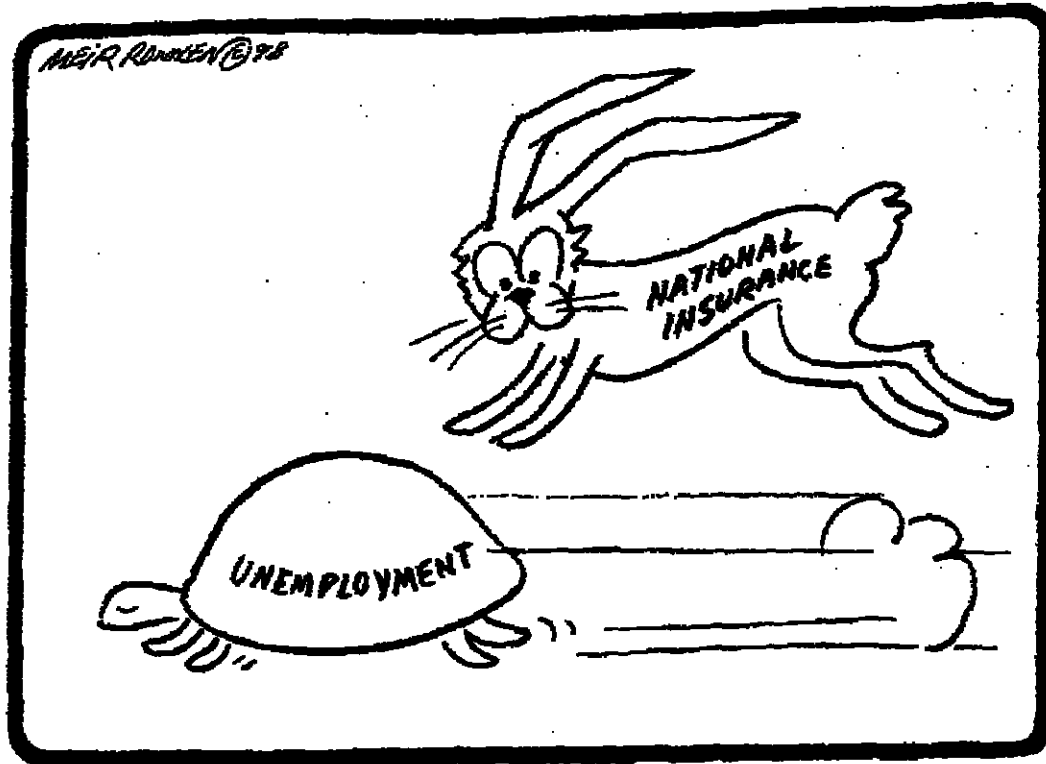
Heavy fighting continued at the Nebi Yusha Police Station in the Galilee which was turned over by

the British to the Arabs. The fighting also continued at the Yafa-Tel Aviv border, Ramat Hakovesh, Ramat Yohanan, Nitzanim and around Hadera. Thirty bus loads of heavily-armed Arab Legion troops arrived in Jerusalem to support the Arab gangs.

25 years ago: On April 22,

1973, The Jerusalem Post reported from Ashdod that the British Cunard luxury liner *Queen Elizabeth II* docked there, ending a trouble-free six day voyage, despite much publicized fears of an Arab terrorist attack.

Alexander Zvielli



## Once a traitor

URI DAN  
DENNIS EISENBERG

From his prison cell the voice of a traitor, who – among other acts of treason – revealed details of Israel's nuclear research program, rang out incessantly loud and clear: "I never betrayed my country. I was trying to save my country. All my efforts were aimed at altering its path from disaster."

His efforts at proving that he was a hero, that he was misunderstood, and that everybody else was guilty, were spoiled by the fact that his lofty philosophy was phony. For as he sat in isolation in his high security prison cell, Mossad chiefs discovered that his alleged idealism was tainted by receiving hard cash for his villainy.

No. We do not speak of Mordechai Vanunu's treachery. The man in question was Israel Be'er, who wormed his way into the confidence of David Ben-Gurion to such an extent that the nation's leader had even lent him his private diary – filled with the most sensitive state secrets – for his bedside reading.

Caught red-handed by Isser Harel, Be'er was sentenced to 16 years in prison, where he died in May 1968.

No publicity-hungry over-the-hill British actresses, no bleeding heart haughty English parliamentarians who behave as though the British Mandate is still in force, came trooping in to demand that Be'er be granted a pardon before serving his full sentence.

In Be'er's defense, it must be said that at least he was a full-fledged, skilled KGB agent. In Russian eyes he was a patriot who toiled to create a communist paradise on earth.

Vanunu does not even have that excuse as a pretext for his villainy.

Venial greed and a deeply buried grudge against his family, his friends and work colleagues at Dimona, the religion into which he was born and his country were among the complex threads of a twisted personality. He set out deliberately to betray every one of the above as he slunk like a thief in the night at his Dimona work place, taking pictures of its secret

hand on the table. Forgotten was Vanunu's fiancée in Australia as the couple set off in a taxi for London's Heathrow airport.

THE rest is history. As Vanunu was led into his conquest's apartment, she slammed the door behind her. A number of burly men cooled the would-be lover's ardor faster than Cassius Clay ever dreamed of even at his peak.

When he woke he found himself in an Israeli prison – where he has been passing his time for the past 12 years in full isolation until he was recently allowed to mingle with other jail birds.

What both his English champions and locals like Dedi Zucker forget as their appeals for Vanunu to be released after serving two-thirds of his 18-year sentence are being heard, is that he caused his country incredible harm. Harm which to this day threatens the safety of all its citizens. Including his own family.

Totally unrepentant, he revealed this week in a clandestine interview with the *Sunday Times* that he will trumpet abroad everything he knows about Israel's atomic secrets.

Israel's enemies, especially Egypt, use Vanunu's claims that Israel has a vast armada of atomic weapons on a regular basis to attack the Jewish state and to endanger the entire Middle East. Cairo also calls for the Jewish state to be cut down to its minimal borders, those which existed before 1967.

Spurred by his threats of revelations yet to come, Syria and Iraq exploit his revelation to build up their military forces. They also use his act of betrayal as a bid to legitimize their ceaseless efforts to create vast armories of unconventional stocks of warfare including atomic weapons.

We all feel compassion for any human being who is a long-term prisoner. But for one who is filled with such hatred for his fellow countrymen, who shows no remorse for his greed-fueled treachery, we cannot but harden our hearts and call on the courts to reject current demands for his release after serving two-thirds of his sentence.

## Slip of the tongue

MOSHE ZAK

end of the separate meetings in London.

A Netanyahu/Arafat encounter will take place under the auspices of the US and UK and there it will be announced that the two sides have agreed on steps towards the operation of the Dahaniya airport and the establishing of an industrial park at the Karni border crossing. An image of progress in the negotiations is more important than how much progress has actually been made.

The prime minister wanted to please the ever-smiling Blair, and he made the slip of referring to the series of meetings in London as a "conference." The leaders of his party and his colleagues in the government have always seen this term as a potential lever for international pressure on Israel.

NETANYAHU didn't think that defining the London meeting as a conference will wake the sleeping Russian bear. It will not stand idly by if the Europeans elbow it aside and take its place among the international sponsors of the Israeli-Arab talks.

Only last week Netanyahu said in an interview to the Russian daily *Izvestia* that Russian aid to Iran in the field of non-conventional arms and missiles has damaged relations between Jerusalem and Moscow.

The Russian foreign ministry was quick to deny this accusation, and claimed that the Russian government has made strenuous efforts to prevent the export to Iran of knowhow and materials liable to aid the production of weapons of mass destruction. These exchanges could serve as the basis for dialogue between Israel and

Russia. The opportunity shouldn't be lost by an ill-considered step, liable to be interpreted in Moscow as an insult to Russia and its position in the Middle East.

The misunderstandings caused by this slip of the tongue should be cleared up immediately and not allowed to act as an obstacle to Israel's essential security needs. Arafat too is liable to misunderstand and think that the "conference" is so important to Israel that it will give him the ability to squeeze concessions out of Israel even before the London meeting.

It isn't yet clear whether Blair managed to persuade him to give up the precondition that the basis for the London talks should be the American proposal on the IDF withdrawal from 13% of the territory of Judea and Samaria.

Netanyahu's gaffe about the "conference" will necessitate much more diplomatic energy to bring the meetings to their original scope and size, in order to allow Madeleine Albright to meet Binyamin Netanyahu and Yasser Arafat in London as the American secretary of state has requested, similar to her meetings in December 1997 with Netanyahu in Paris and Arafat in London.

The last conference convened in London regarding the Arab-Jewish dispute collapsed, when the Arabs rejected the British proposal to allocate 16% of Palestine to a Jewish autonomous region. It was in February 1947 and Ernest Bevin, then British foreign secretary, announced the transferring of the problem to the UN. Thereby, Britain lost its position here. Tony Blair has neither the power nor the intention of restoring history's course to a new conference in London, but unintentionally he may complicate the very delicate Israeli-Palestinian negotiations.

## Religious wars

DAVID NEWMAN

My children are educated in a worthless system. Everything they are taught there is no more than a sham.

After all, who am I to dispute the wisdom of Rabbi Ovadia Yosef? His weekly Saturday night pearl of political wisdom was quite categorical. Anyone educated in the religious Zionist system is subject to a regime of lies and falsehoods. Parents should cease to send their children to this evil educational environment.

As Yosef and his Shas followers have increased their hold on power, the outrageous statements of this religious guru have had little to do with religion, but a lot with politics. His latest piece of verbal nonsense is designed to gain even more power at the expense of his main political rival, the National Religious Party, and its religious leader Mordechai Eliahu, who dared to usurp Yosef's throne as Sephardi chief rabbi in the early 1980s.

The past 10 years has witnessed a major revolution in the world of religious politics. For decades, the NRP was the only religious party to obtain significant political power. The other, haredi, parties refused to join secular governments and exercised most of their power through coalition manipulation.

But the emergence and rise to power of Shas changed all that. While the NRP was seen as being a predominantly Ashkenazi party, Shas turned to the Mizrahi population. While the NRP largely attracted the religious middle-class and professional elites, Shas turned their eyes to the deprived residents of the rundown neighborhoods and development towns.

Using the simplest, some would argue primitive forms of religious allegiance and superstitions, Shas emerged, in relatively short time, as the third-largest political party in Israel.

THE NRP meanwhile lost its way. Where they had once been a party of the center, able to create bridges

There is one sure loser in the latest Shas-NRP alteration Judaism

between Right and Left, religious and secular, they became transformed into Israel's most extreme right-wing political party. They exchanged traditional forms of Jewish religion with their own brand of territorial religion, one in which all other values became secondary to that of a Greater Israel.

Their education system is a long way from being free of political brainwashing, although not in the way that Ovadia Yosef suggests. The NRP is guilty of having created a generation of territorial clones whose chief educational goal is to persuade their charges to run to every new West Bank settlement and to oppose any attempt at Israeli-Palestinian peacemaking. By becoming so narrow minded in their political approach, the NRP opened themselves to the sort of sectoral attack launched by the Shas leader this week.

The new political power of alternative religious, mostly non-Zionist, groups has been evident in recent years, notably in the struggle for control over the Ministry of Religious Affairs. For so long perceived as being the NRP's sole property, it has now become a shared domain together with Shas politicians.

In the past, the chief rabbis were only elected from amongst NRP candidates, but the current chief rabbis were alternative candidates put forward by other religious factions.

Yosef's most recent statement is likely to signal the beginning of the battle for an even more important post – the education portfolio. From a Shas perspective, the current minister, Yitzhak Levy, has no greater right to the portfolio than do their own candidates. Moreover, the fact that the new NRP leadership, Levy and Eliahu, are both Sephardi rabbis, is seen by Shas as constituting a direct challenge to the supremacy of Yosef in the Mizrahi religious world.

One thing is definite. The battle between Shas and the NRP, Yosef and Eliahu, Levy and Aryeh Deri, has absolutely nothing to do with religion, education or values. It is about politics and raw power.

Neither Shas nor the NRP can emerge from this latest altercation with any honor. Both have been equally responsible for using religion for political means. Both continue to see their respective educational institutions and yeshivot as means of brainwashing generations of children into adopting political stances and positions which should be left out of any education system.

And both seem to be on the verge of a new, venomous, battle in which there can be only one loser – Judaism and its message of spirituality.

مكتبة القدس



# A burning need to know where they are

Since stumbling on to a list of 73 Jewish children who spent World War II hiding out in France, Delphine DeRoo has been obsessed with chronicling their fate. Her book is slated to appear later this year, writes **Bonnie Rochman**

The list was dog-eared but neatly typed.

On it were the names of 73 Jewish children who passed the nights and days of World War II in hiding in France, unbeknownst to the villagers who lived near them in the pastoral French countryside that borders a town called Grenoble, in the southeast of the country.

The names caught the eye of Delphine DeRoo, a 25-year-old Catholic, who grew up there.

Two years have passed since she stumbled upon the list in the Paris archives of the Organization for Aid to Jewish Children, where she was doing unrelated research. Ever since, she hasn't stopped her odyssey to chronicle the fate of the children.

Her dogged pursuit has brought a largely unknown chapter of history to public light and helped lift a veil of silence that has blanketed much of France's wartime role.

"My friends want to know what happened. I want to know," she said. "For too long, everything about France's involvement in the war has been kept quiet."

DeRoo is methodical as she explains what inspired her to begin her exploration, mapping out a confluence of events that has led her from her roots as a Catholic Frenchwoman with an affinity for Judaism, toward a new life as a committed Jewish convert in Israel. It is here that she spends every day in quest of the children. Slightly more than 50 of them are still living, she figures.

AT 3 A.M. one morning in March 1944, the Gestapo raided one of the hideouts, inside a country chateau near the village of Voiron, not far from Grenoble. They sent the 16 children they found there to Auschwitz. One survived.

The other children who were hiding nearby remained in the sprawling, old homes that had been rented clandestinely from unsuspecting villagers by members of a Jewish resistance group. They were liberated in August 1944.

Today they are scattered throughout the world, some having built new lives here or in America, while others remained in Europe.

DeRoo has found 30 of them and has attempted to get a glimpse into their past.

Several have been curt, reluctant to dredge up painful memories, even to help a young woman write a book devoted to them. "A lot of people don't want to speak about it," she said. "But I know where they are, and that is enough for me."

Last autumn DeRoo witnessed the beginnings of communal acknowledgment of what happened so near her home town at a ceremony in France for the 16 children who were dragged from their hiding place near Voiron

close to Grenoble. The sole survivor of the group, 72-year-old Erwin Uhr of Belgium, came to bless the memory of his younger brother who had died at the age of nine in Auschwitz.

The arrests of the children were known to many in the village in 1944. But the half-century-long community silence that followed has only now begun to be eroded by DeRoo.

She believes that although most of the villagers were unaware of the Jewish children hidden in their midst, it is very likely that one of them informed on the group of 16.

"I don't know why this secrecy lasted so long," admitted Nathalie Papon, the head of public relations for the Voiron municipality. She helped organize the ceremony after local authorities heard of DeRoo's findings.

"I can tell you that we are still receiving letters that say it is a good thing to commemorate the children's memory," Delphine has sensitized us," Papon said.

DeRoo came across the list while documenting Jewish resistance during World War II for the Museum of Resistance and Deportation in Grenoble. Although renowned Nazi hunter and lawyer Serge Klarsfeld had written more than a decade before of the existence of the list, DeRoo, her colleagues at the museum and most of Grenoble, were shocked.

After she showed the list to a former Jewish resistance fighter who had operated in Grenoble during the war and also knew nothing of the children, he insisted on publicizing the find.

"The French were astonished that such a tragedy could happen in a place like France and then be forgotten," said Klarsfeld. He gave his first son the middle name of Emmanuel, in memory of one of the 16 deported children whose family had been friendly with his own.

Meanwhile, DeRoo began documenting what had taken place so near her home town for a book due out later this year. She characterizes it as part history but mostly a trove of personal memories of wartime years and stunted childhoods.

"Most writers write because they have something within themselves that they have to express," she said. "For me it's not that. It's not my story. It's the children's. This story has to be told in their memory."

**SHE BEGAN HER RESEARCH** by amassing personal recollections of the war years. DeRoo's grandparents, who spent the war in occupied northern France, still don't want to speak about their experiences. But the grandparents of her Jewish childhood friends felt otherwise. Bit by bit, they divulged an oral history that captivated DeRoo — and was damning of many of her countrymen.

"When my grandparents didn't

want to talk, it only made me more determined to find out what went on," she said.

She pauses. "Not that it's fair to say that everyone in France was a collaborator. I hear stories of villagers who knew Jews were hidden in their towns, yet said nothing. It's a question of who has the courage and strength of character to act as a human being."

DeRoo has found that same strength of character mirrored in the survivors.

On a recent breezy afternoon, with the sun baking the uniform red-tiled houses of Kibbutz Ein Hanatziv, DeRoo arrived at the home of Rachel Reich, who was 10 when she first found refuge, along with her older and younger brothers, near Grenoble.

A sleek cap of silver hair framing her face, Reich, 64, smiled easily as she sifted through memories long buried. She has rarely spoken about what happened and remembered only bits and pieces, but she could still hear the strange hysterical laughter that erupted spontaneously when she learned her older brother, who had been moved to a separate hiding place, had been among the 16 children deported.

She also recalled the stone chateau where she was hidden, the trek to the outhouse and the tantalizing, enticing scent of flowers that wafted over the surrounding wall.

During the day, the children learned about Judaism. Reich, previously not religious at all, learned enough to parlay her knowledge into a profession: Today she is a teacher of Talmud.

"I never think about the past. I'm not interested in remembering," professed Reich a bit defiantly. "But it is important to document. There is not someone like Delphine everywhere to remind people who weren't there of what this list means."

Yet when DeRoo made the journey to Belgium to interview the only child from the group deported to Auschwitz who survived, she came face to face with the kind of internal wounds that can't be overcome.

At the memorial service, Uhr had told a squadron of attendant journalists how he had gotten even with the Germans for killing his brother. "I married and raised a family. That is my revenge," he said in a hushed voice.

DeRoo came away impressed with the dignity of his answer. But when they were alone, acrid words betrayed his public statement, and he spoke wrenchingly of his bitterness toward the Germans.

"I didn't know what to do in the face of his memories," she said. "I didn't know what he expected from me."

"All I can do is continue what I'm doing, recording these years so no one will ever be able to say they did not know what these children endured."



Delphine DeRoo comes face to face with surviving children who were hidden in her hometown in France during WW II. (Will Yerman)

## Forging a deeper bond

She's always been something of a maverick.

And in the past several years Delphine DeRoo, has proved that more than ever, changing her faith and leaving her country.

Although Jews make up less than two percent of Grenoble's population of 400,000, DeRoo's best friend from childhood was an Orthodox Jew. Growing up, she spent Jewish holidays with her friend's family and was enchanted with the traditions and their way of life.

When her friend moved to Israel several years ago, DeRoo came to see her. She found she didn't want to leave. After other visits left her feeling more connected than ever to Judaism, she converted.

"I was very religious when I converted three years ago. I prayed three times a day. Since then I've moderated what I do, keeping one foot in each world — who I was before and who I am now."

Her open-minded attitude has helped her parents, who still live in France, come to terms with her new religious convictions and her subsequent move to Israel.

"My parents were very surprised. They know nothing about Judaism. They have no Jewish friends," she said. "I could see they were upset when they heard me praying every morning in Hebrew. But they've come to respect me, even though they don't understand why I've done this."

"I don't understand it myself, except to say that Jews seem like one big family looking out for each other, and I like that."

Last September, DeRoo, 25, forged an even deeper bond with the Jewish people by moving to Israel. "Either I would be in France and think about Israel all the time or I'd be here and think I should stay. I don't know if I'll be here forever, but I want to try it."

Getting acclimated was made easier when a family friend offered her a bedroom in the family's opulent Tel Aviv apartment. Many of her friends, whom she had met during previous visits to Israel, live close by and have been very supportive of DeRoo and her work.

"I always have a little bit of nostalgia for my life back in France," she said. "But I've spent a lot of time here in the past few years. I knew what to expect."

Her daily routine revolves around the looming June deadline for the completion of her book about the — now-adult — children who took refuge in France from the Nazis.

Yet even before her book nears completion, DeRoo is drafting a blueprint for the future. She'd like to find work at one of the country's museums, especially Yad Vashem or the Museum of the Diaspora.

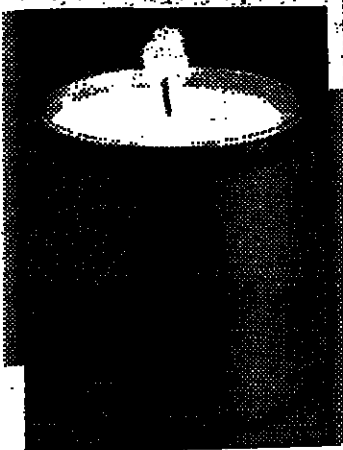
In the meantime, she's focused on finishing the book and getting acquainted with her new country.

— B.R.

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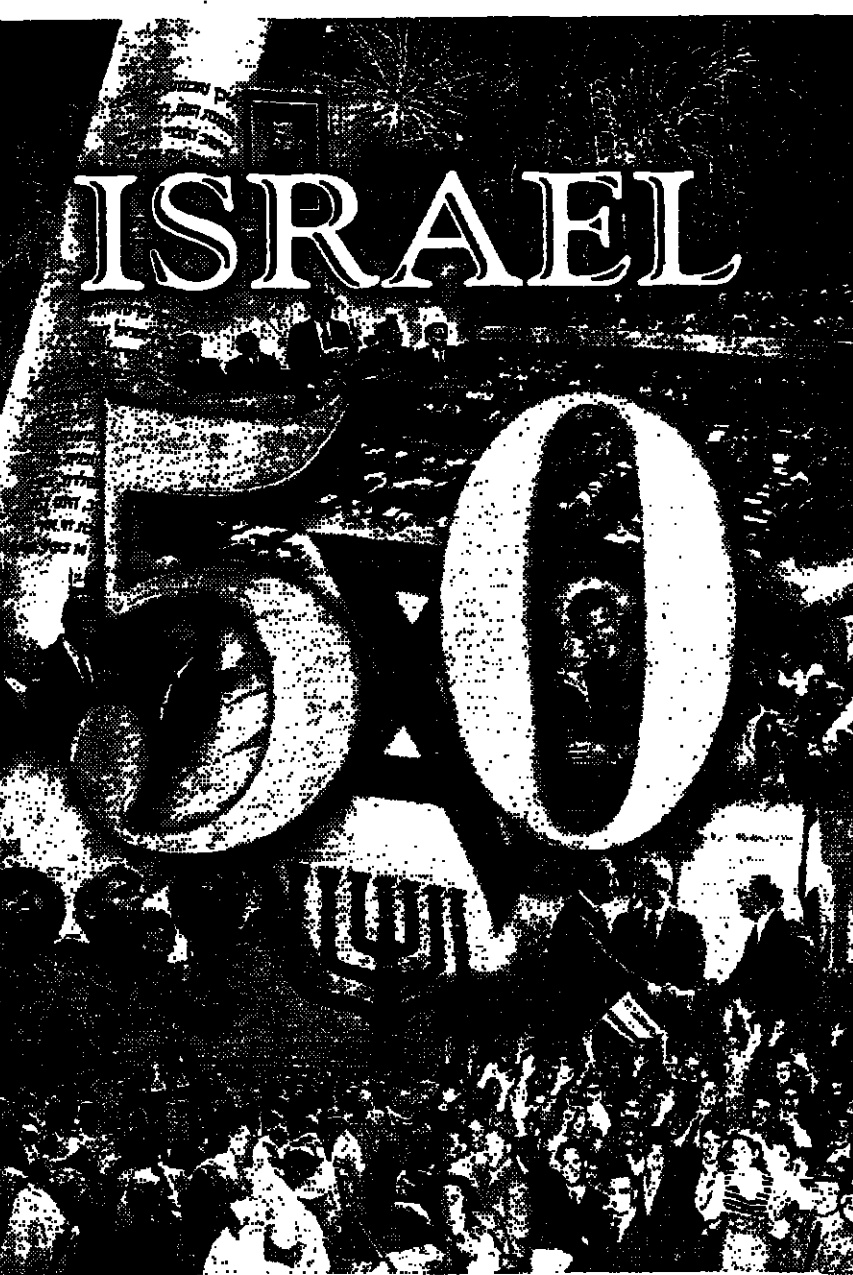
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# Who, exactly, is a Righteous Gentile?

Fifty-three years after the Lutheran pastor Dietrich Bonhoeffer was executed by the Nazis, Stephen A. Wise, a Connecticut lawyer, is tugging with Yad Vashem, trying to get the German resister recognized as a "Righteous Among the Nations." The dispute is not new. Yad Vashem's Commission for the Designation of the Righteous has been declining the designation since 1986.

While not the first to seek the designation for Bonhoeffer, Wise is the first to turn it into a public crusade. In an article published February 25 in *The Christian Century*, a prominent ecumenical weekly in the US, Wise asked: "Why isn't Bonhoeffer honored at Yad Vashem?" He subsequently assailed Yad Vashem for what he called its "blackballing rules" and "procedural obstacles."

"The issue," said the director of Yad Vashem's Department for the Righteous Among the Nations, Mordechai Paldi, "is not whether Bonhoeffer deserves our admiration for his courageous anti-Nazi stand, which eventually doomed him—he is a martyr in the struggle against Nazism. Our program of 'Righteous Among the Nations,' however, is geared to persons who specifically helped Jews, and this aspect has not been established with regard to Dietrich Bonhoeffer."

Yad Vashem's decision on Bonhoeffer said Paldi, "is a question of principle and sticking to the main outline of the program. This is not about the good guys vs. the bad guys. He's one of the good guys." But he added, "we wish to underline that the Righteous program was not designed by the Israeli parliament to cover all those who died as martyrs in the anti-Nazi struggle, but to honor non-Jews who specifically addressed themselves to the Jewish issue, and risked their lives in the attempt to aid Jews."

Yad Vashem remains prepared to re-examine the Bonhoeffer case, he said. "We are still looking for that piece of evidence that will link him directly to the rescue of Jews."

Bonhoeffer advocates maintain the evidence already exists.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer was not only a theologian and a member of the anti-Reich Confessing Church, but, with his brother-in-law, Hans von Dohnanyi, he was an active conspirator against Hitler. Yad Vashem, they say, just is not prepared to relate to the German resistance.

WISE INVOKES his family connections with Bonhoeffer, which go back as far as 1931. It was then that the Lutheran pastor met Wise's grandfather, Stephen S. Wise, the pre-eminent Reform rabbi and American Jewish leader of the age.

Rabbi Wise, the long-time Zionist leader who founded the American Jewish Congress and the World Jewish Congress, is widely revered for alerting the US government, and then the American public, to the Holocaust. He conveyed the information that had been obtained by Gerhart Riegner of Geneva, whose August 1942 telegram warned the West about Hitler's plan for the "Final Solution."

In one of a series of salvos, the

grandson insisted that Yad Vashem had incomplete information about Bonhoeffer. Further, he said, while rescue is the general standard, a person could be recognized as righteous for publicly speaking out against the persecution of Jews while residing in Germany. And this Bonhoeffer did, Wise said, quoting a Jewish scholar who said that "during the Nazi years, Protestants uttered barely a word of protest against the treatment of the Jews, with the sole exception of Dietrich Bonhoeffer."

Some of Yad Vashem's responses to Wise's numerous queries just seemed to goad him. For example, in a letter dated April 8, 1997, Paldi wrote that "no direct evidence has surfaced linking Bonhoeffer to the rescue of Jews—that is, of his personal involvement in either sheltering or extending other forms of aid to persecuted Jews (to persons still adhering to the Jewish faith)."

Retorting in his article in *The Christian Century*, Wise asked "What is the measure of adherence: Orthodox Judaism? Conservative? Reform?"

But "adherence" apparently remains an issue. Recognition was not conferred, despite testimony that Bonhoeffer risked his life to save Charlotte Friedenthal, a Jewish convert to Christianity, who escaped to Switzerland with 13 others, said Peter Hoffmann, author of *The History of the German Resistance 1933-1945*.

WISE HAS also attempted to model his petition for Bonhoeffer on successful applications made on behalf of other candidates. He asked for copies of the proposals submitted on behalf of three Germans who were recognized as among the righteous: Oskar Schindler, Armin Wegner and Heinrich Gruber. Gruber was a Lutheran pastor in Berlin who rescued many Jews who had converted to Christianity, was interned and survived Dachau.

The Wegner designation seems to parallel elements of the case being made for Bonhoeffer, that "rescue" is not an absolute requirement. Wegner, who was

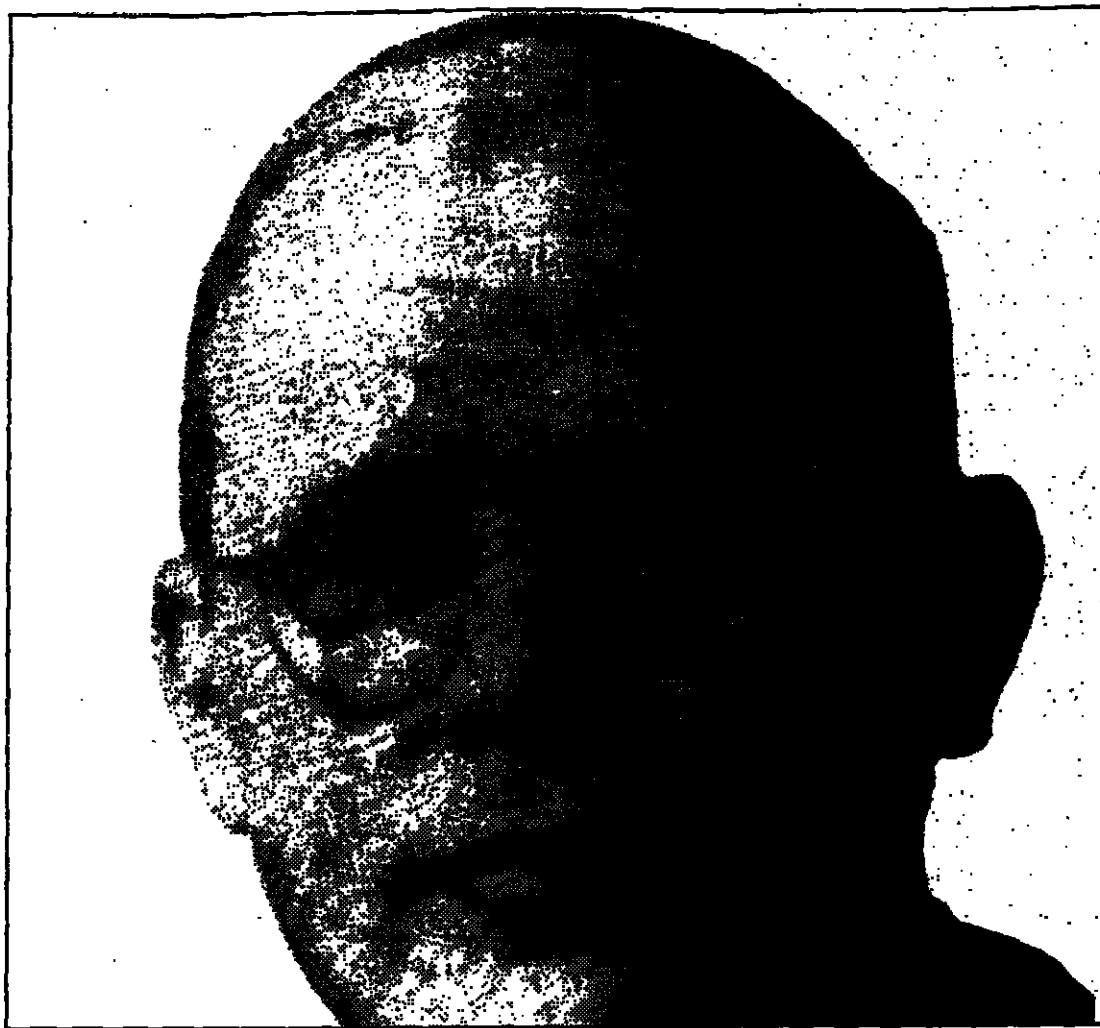
**"This is not about the good guys vs. the bad guys. Bonhoeffer is one of the good guys... but we are still looking for evidence linking him to the rescue of Jews" — Yad Vashem's Mordechai Paldi**

recognized in 1967, challenged the Nazi regime's antisemitism in a March 1933 letter that criticized Hitler. Wise argues that Wegner was interned for his letter, while Bonhoeffer's criticism—which began two days after Hitler became chancellor on January 30, 1933—ultimately cost him his life.

"We felt this was an exception to the rule," Paldi explained regarding the Wegner case. "There are cases that are unique. In all these unique cases, there is a direct reference to the Jewish issue. When we come to Bonhoeffer, we cannot find direct reference to the Jewish issue in Germany."

Historian Peter Hoffmann, of McGill University, finds this argu-

ment unconvincing. While the Nazi regime's motivations for executing Bonhoeffer and von



Dietrich Bonhoeffer: He was executed for plotting to overthrow Hitler. But was he a Righteous Gentile?

club whose charter is sealed, whose application procedures are withheld, and whose blackballing rules are absolute and unreviewable," Wise told *The Jerusalem Post*.

Paldi said he was sympathetic to Wise's appeal, "but we have a certain program that does not address itself to all those who fell to Nazi tyranny or opposed the Nazis from their own perspective. It is not a matter of bureaucracy or narrow-mindedness," Paldi said wearily. "If we were to recognize Bonhoeffer, and the next day you ask me why, I would say that he opposed Hitler in church-state policies. Is that what the program is for?"

Bonhoeffer is not the only dauntless individual who has not been recognized by Yad Vashem, Paldi added. The Bishop of Munster, Clemens August von Galen, spoke out forcefully in 1941 against euthanasia. "He was a very courageous man," he said. "He should be included on some list of righteous—but not this list."

BONHOEFFER'S role as a resister cannot be separated from his ties with the von Dohnanyi family. Married to Bonhoeffer's sister Christine, Hans von Dohnanyi was a special director

in the *Abwehr* (German military counterintelligence), and was once described by the Gestapo as

brought pastor Bonhoeffer into the *Abwehr*, which under Wilhelm Canaris was the locus of a key group of conspirators against Hitler. They plotted coups, appealed to the Vatican, informed western nations of Hitler's plan to attack France, and compiled extensive files on the crimes of the National Socialist government.

Their office ceased to be a central link of the resistance when von Dohnanyi and Bonhoeffer were arrested on the same April day in 1943—an arrest that was seen as the first victory of the SS in its war against the *Abwehr*. They were both executed on the same day two years later, in two different camps.

Von Dohnanyi was tortured and hanged in Sachsenhausen. Bonhoeffer and Canaris were hanged on April 9, 1945, at Flossenbürg.

Yad Vashem's Paldi said that "Bonhoeffer's arrest and execution by the Nazis is linked to his courageous opposition to the Nazi regime in matters dealing with church-state policies and his involvement in the anti-Hitler plot of July 1944, and not, to the best of our knowledge and the known record, to any personal aid rendered to Jews."

Some 16,000 people have been recognized as among the Righteous by Yad Vashem, including "several hundred Germans," Paldi added. "That's not the issue."

THE RESISTANCE, though seems to be another matter. The goals of the resistance were not to save Jews, but to save Germany.

Many resisters were nationalist, authoritarian, anti-democratic and antisemitic. Bonhoeffer himself wrestled with the traditional Lutheran anti-Judaism. Other resisters are discounted as collaborators because they were part of the Nazi hierarchy—which, in turn, undercuts a designation by Yad Vashem.

That appears to be the case with von Dohnanyi, who particularly seems to illuminate Yad Vashem's uneasy response to the German resistance. Although—with assis-

tance from Bonhoeffer—he rescued a group of 14 Jews, von Dohnanyi has also not been recognized by Yad Vashem.

Posing as members of the SS security force, the 14 rescued in the mission known as Operation Seven, were able to flee from Berlin to Switzerland. That group included three Jews—Dorothee Fliess and her parents—and Jews who had converted to Christianity.

"The others were in danger [as Jews] under Nazi laws; we, because we were Jews," Dorothee Fliess said in an interview in Switzerland. "When we came here in October 1942, the Jewish community here in Basel thought we were spies. They didn't

believe we were Jews because no one could emigrate from Germany."

The Gestapo discovered that Bonhoeffer, von Dohnanyi, Canaris and Hans Oster had used their official positions in the *Abwehr* for the rescue, and also discovered illegal money transactions that had aided the 14 as well as other Jews, said Hoffmann. "It was precisely this issue that led to the arrests of Bonhoeffer and von Dohnanyi on April 5, 1943," he said.

Fliess was rejected in 1991 when she asked Yad Vashem to recognize von Dohnanyi. The Commission for the Designation of the Righteous, which is chaired by a justice of the Supreme Court, declined conferring the title on von Dohnanyi because Operation Seven had the full backing of the highest authority in the *Abwehr*.

"With all our respect and admiration, the decision was that he had not risked his life in the operation, because he had had the full knowledge and consent of the organization, of Canaris," Paldi said. "von Dohnanyi was executed, but this had nothing to do with this operation."

"Which part of the rope was for that, and which part was for something else?" countered Hoffmann. "There is no doubt that Bonhoeffer and von Dohnanyi were arrested because of their activities on behalf of the 14 Jews, and equally there can be no doubt that they placed their lives in danger through those activities, regardless of whether or not they had the approval of Canaris." Especially troubling for Yad Vashem seemed to be von Dohnanyi's connection with Canaris, whom Paldi called "one of the most powerful men in the Third Reich. How do we separate the role of von von Dohnanyi and Canaris?" he asked.

It is that connection and von Dohnanyi's role in the *Abwehr* that militated against recognition by Yad Vashem, Paldi acknowledged. "For any person in a position of authority in the Nazi hierarchy, especially in Germany, we are very careful," he said. "They may have saved some Jews because they may have had a special relationship with them, but with their position in the Nazi hierarchy, to recognize them would make a laughing matter" of the Righteous program.

Fliess does not believe that von Dohnanyi's recognition should be denied because he worked for the *Abwehr*. Quite the reverse. She insists that his position saved her and her parents from the Nazis, while her sister was safely in Jerusalem, studying at the Bezalel art academy. "von Dohnanyi could not have helped us if he had not been part of the structure," she said.

But, while she supports Wise's efforts for Bonhoeffer, Fliess expects he will be rebuffed again by Yad Vashem. "They just don't want to do it," she said. "And now, they have said 'no' so often, that they cannot say, 'Yes, you are right and we were mistaken.'"

Paldi, however, has not closed the books on Bonhoeffer. "We are, as we have been, prepared to re-examine the Bonhoeffer case upon the receipt of new and yet-undisclosed documentation testifying to a personal involvement of the man in the rescue of Jews."

Bonhoeffer advocates maintain the link already exists. They point out that the pastor was an active conspirator against Hitler and claim Yad Vashem just isn't prepared to relate to the German resistance

to schools, libraries and other institutions, as well as the public.

Berenbaum says the Hollywood approach won out in the first project, the documentary film *Survivors of the Holocaust*. The film, which won an Emmy Award and retails for \$19.98, features birds swooping across the screen and heart-wrenching swells of string music. More disturbing to many historians, the producers played loose with the facts. "There was a mixing of locations in the first film," Berenbaum says, meaning footage from one location was used to illustrate scenes from elsewhere. "That won't happen again."

Yehuda Bauer, was disappointed by *Survivors*. "They choose the most emotional stories," he says. "That is really quite dangerous. Horror stories repel rather than attract." Still, Bauer adds, "if I had to choose between 15 or 20 academic seeing something or 15 or 20 million people around the world, I'd choose the millions, even if it means a certain amount of commercialization."

The foundation has never denied its intent to bring survivors' stories to a wider audience by creating accessible, dramatic stories to captivate non-scholars. "We were attracted to this project like moths to a flame," says a survivor who worked for the foundation for several years but left disillusioned. "I believed the sacredness of the martyrdom of our parents was going to protect us from the inanity of Hollywood. I was wrong."

Yet many survivors are grateful for the chance to set down their stories and have them told in a way that will be accessible to all. "I just want to reach people, to grab them," says Daisy Miller, the only survivor among the foundation's executives. "The urgency is what compels me. We're dying every day—and quickly."

(The Washington Post)

## Respecting the facts vs. the desire to 'glitz it up'

Past the Universal Studios costume building, inside a fenced-off labyrinth of wooden trailers, nearly 200 people toil around the clock on a Steven Spielberg production that might be the richest documentation of history ever attempted. In a race against time as dramatic as a chase scene in one of the famed director's movies, Spielberg's Shoah Visual History Foundation is scouring the globe for aging survivors of the Holocaust to set their recollections on video, creating a digital archive of firsthand accounts of Germany's drive to exterminate European Jewry.

The foundation is inspired by *Schindler's List*, Spielberg's 1993 film about a German industrialist who saved his Jewish workers from the Nazi death machine. In four years of frenzied work the foundation has amassed tapes of 40,766 survivors of the Holocaust, the project's Web site, [www.vhf.org](http://www.vhf.org).

But the path to that achievement has been riddled with hazards and missteps: Historians worry that Spielberg's Hollywood mind-set has favored production values over historical fidelity; Former employees say a rush to meet Spielberg's goal of 50,000 interviews in three years, along with antipathy toward academic experts on the Holocaust, has weakened interviews with survivors, creating a massive archive of questionable usefulness. A yawning gap has opened between the accumulation of testimonies and the development of a way to make them available to researchers, students and Internet surfers.

In the public mind, the Shoah Foundation is virtually synonymous with Spielberg, without whose \$3 million in seed money and \$16 million additional donations, the project would not exist.

Steven Spielberg's frenzied race against time to document Holocaust survivors' testimonies has experts worried that his Hollywood approach could undermine the vast project's usefulness, writes Marc Fisher

Spielberg declined to be interviewed for this story. The foundation's first executive directors, movie producers James Moll and June Beallor, "took what could have been a great nonprofit organization and tried to bend it into a movie production company for the purpose of advancing their careers with Spielberg," charges Warren Goldie, a former foundation manager.

But former foundation research manager Erik Simon says that "One hundred years from now, the Shoah Foundation's contribution will be seen as irreplaceable. But there was a period when I was concerned that the foundation was at risk of creating the most thoroughly catalogued, extensively indexed, technologically advanced collection of mediocre interviews ever assembled."

Michael Berenbaum, the foundation's president for the past year, concedes the \$60 million project has had problems in the rush to meet a weekly quota of 320 interviews in 30 languages in more than 40 countries. But, he says, the glitches ultimately won't matter.

"There has been a tension here between an academic respect for the material and the Hollywood desire to glitz it up," says Berenbaum, former chief of the US Holocaust Memorial Museum's research institute. But in the end, he says, "quantity creates quality. This will be an archive, not just of generals and journalists, but of Peter the doctor and Chava the baker and Chaim

the tailor." The Shoah Foundation ruins new ground, stockpiling stories from as many survivors as possible for later generations to examine. "What Spielberg is doing has to be done," says Yehuda Bauer, director of the International Institute for Holocaust Research at Yad Vashem. "But memory plays tricks on people. Professional academics know

**"Memory plays tricks. Professional academics know what to ask. These interviews are being done without any possibility of checking information" — Prof. Yehuda Bauer**

what is already known and what is not known, so they know what to ask. These interviews are being done without any possibility of checking information. So a portion of these interviews will not be useful. There are a lot of problems," adds Bauer, a Hebrew University professor and one of the world's foremost Holocaust scholars.

Just making and storing copies of hundreds of thousands of tapes requires round-the-clock shifts at the Shoah Foundation, millions of dollars of state-of-the-art equipment, and mountains of digital videocassettes that cost \$90 each. Documents for survivors worldwide are converted into 21 languages. Eventually,

five repositories—Yale University, the Holocaust Museum, Yad Vashem, the Museum of Tolerance in Los Angeles and New York's Museum of Jewish Heritage—are to be linked to the foundation's archive by private fiber-optic lines.

But before testimonies can be used, every testimony must be analyzed word by word to create a detailed and consis-

tent index that researchers can use to find, for example, anything survivors have said about a deportation from a particular town on a certain date.

This massive task has proved to be the foundation's bane. The first two years of work, in which about 500 interviews were catalogued, had to be scrapped because of technical and conceptual problems. When it became clear the cataloging was paralyzed, "there was a refusal to get advice from outside people who could really help us," says Michelle Kaufman, a librarian who was an archivist at the foundation from 1994 to 1997.

"June and James saw this as a three-

year blitz, where you work people like crazy and get it done, like making a movie, where you just do it and disband." Executives said they could work faster without academic input, ex-staffers say.

"Finding the balance between legitimacy and the ability to move without academic restraints was tough," says Jim Banister, the foundation's first director of multimedia and post-production, now vice president of Warner Bros. Online. "Were the people running the foundation qualified to run a humanitarian effort with such sensitivities as there are in the academic and Holocaust communities? Probably not. But who is qualified to do it? We didn't have time for the pace of academia."

To date, about 1,000 testimonies have been catalogued; the collection will not be made available to the repositories anytime soon. Sid Bolinsky, director of a Holocaust history project at the University of Michigan at Dearborn, helped train Shoah Foundation interviewers and came away distressed that the project was fixated on speed and a Hollywood approach to storytelling. "All the scholars in the field told them pretty much the same stuff—don't restrict the survivors to two hours, let them talk, be sure your interviewers are well trained—and they rejected everything, to the last suggestion," Bolinsky says.

The foundation plans to sell its products—including documentary films and CD-ROMs that tell stories of, for example, the deportation of Jews from Berlin

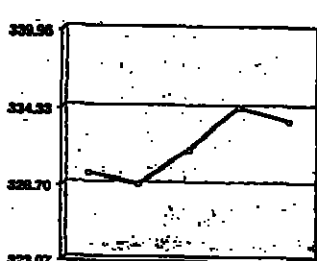
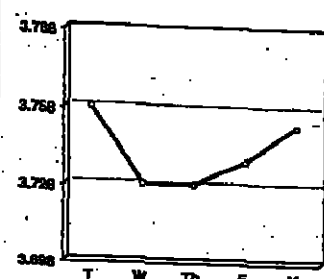


## MARKETS

in brief

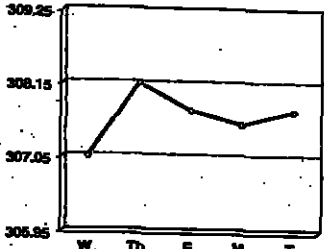
DOLLAR / SHEKEL

MAOF INDEX



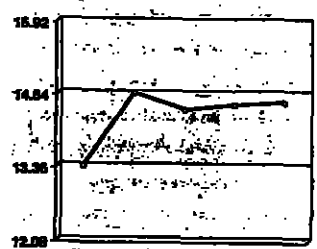
GOLD

\$ per ounce

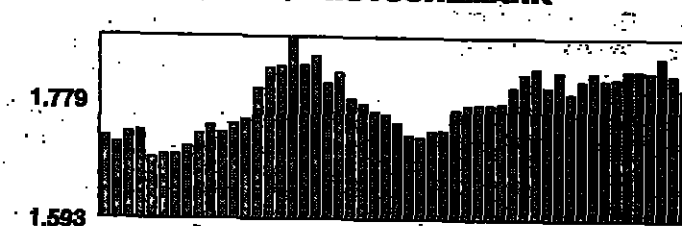


OIL

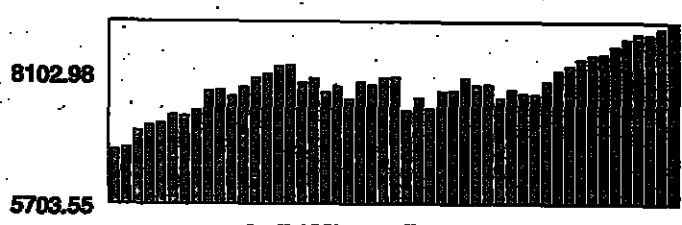
\$ per barrel of Brent crude



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### Gov't approves trade deal with Moldova

The government yesterday approved an agreement for economic and trade cooperation with the CIS republic of Moldova. The agreement will facilitate trade and remove barriers. Industry and Trade Minister Nathan Sharansky said there is potential for Israeli companies to take part in development and infrastructure projects in Moldova. Bilateral trade stood at only \$4 million last year, with Israel's exports mostly in food products and machinery.

### Israelis, Palestinians talk business

Palestinian and Israeli businessmen held discussions on cooperation in Tel Aviv yesterday. The talks focused on business opportunities, joint ventures and industrial parks. The Israelis included Shimon Peres, Manufacturers Association president Dan Propper, and government coordinator of activities in the territories Ya'acov Or. The Palestinian representatives included Palestinian Authority Economics Minister Maher el-Masri and Amin Haddad, manager of PADICO, the company operating the Karni Park. The buildings in the Karni Park, located in the PA, are to be ready next month for companies to begin establishing factories.

## Mashav to sell its stake in Sonol's parent company for \$154.7m.

By DAN GERSTENFELD

Mashav Initiating and Development said yesterday that it plans to sell its 56.25 percent controlling stake in the Granite Hachamel Investments Group for at least \$154.7 million.

Granite's main holding is Sonol Israel, one of Israel's three largest petroleum companies. At the end of last year, the Antitrust Authority ordered Mashav's parent company, Koor, to sell off one of its energy holdings.

In a statement to the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange, Mashav said that it has

approached 22 companies which expressed interest in the company. The interested companies should submit offers to buy Granite based on a minimum price valuing the company at \$275m.

The decision to sell Granite is in line with an agreement signed between Koor Industries and Clal Israel, the country's two largest conglomerates, to end their joint management of Mashav. At the end of '97 when the Antitrust Authority ordered the two firms to end joint control of Mashav within four years, they agreed that Koor would sell Clal 25% of its shares in Mashav. The Antitrust Authority also forced

Mashav to sell its holdings in Granite after the sale of the controlling share in Koor to Claridge Israel, which holds a stake in Paz, Israel's largest supplier of refined petroleum products. At the end of '97 Antitrust Authority director-general David Tadmor ordered Claridge to sell one of its energy holdings - Paz or Sonol.

In return for the sale of its holdings in Mashav, Clal agreed to sell Koor 5% of ECI Telecommunications for \$112m. In addition, Koor has an option to buy another 5% of the telecom company until January 1999.

Mashav said that offers for the purchasing of Granite should be submitted by May 15.

The company added that within 60 days from the closing of the tender it would announce with which company it will hold negotiations. In addition to Sonol Israel, Granite's holdings include enterprises in petroleum products, gas, real estate and the manufacture of car batteries.

Mashav is a large holding company with interests that include fuel and real estate. The company's major holding is Neshet, the cement monopoly. In addition, Mashav holds a 50% stake in cement container operator Ta'avura, a 100% stake in Av-Shal Investment and Trade, and 20% of M.E.E. Gas.



### Microsoft presentation

Microsoft CEO Bill Gates talks about Windows 98 during his keynote address at the WinWorld conference in Chicago. Gates gave a demonstration of the new software to be introduced this summer.

## Neeman: Real interest rates to drop with inflation

By DAVID HARRIS

Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman yesterday pledged that interest rates will be reduced in real terms at least at the same rate as inflation.

Speaking to economists at Jerusalem's Van Leer Institute, Neeman stressed he was talking about real interest rates, which stand at some 7-8 percent, rather than the nominal rates.

He added that he realizes that this is the realm of the Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel but hinted that they are working together.

"Low inflation is a blessing, not a curse, and should be seen as such," said Neeman.

In a wide-ranging address, Neeman described the latest 6.5% increase in the number of job seekers as distressing. "As opposed to other countries, where unemployment is also at 8.1%-8.2%, we're a Jewish state; we can't look at statistics but must examine the details of each and every jobless person," he said.

He outlined four "painful" measures which collectively will reduce joblessness and restore economic growth:

Investing in infrastructure. This Neeman further split into two categories, the temporary but immediately required specific treatment of individual unem-

ployment black spots. "We must go from factory to factory to see their problems and initiate the necessary projects," he said.

Long-term investments, meanwhile, are the true solution to the problem, Neeman said. This year he said expenditure through public authorities on infrastructure will total up to NIS 14 billion from NIS 11b. last year.

Neeman said there is plenty of money available if the relevant bodies knew how to successfully release it. "Israel can't continue with growth unless money, which the public authorities already have, is used, but it's tied up with bureaucratic problems."

Neeman expects private organizations to also contribute to the pot.

Reforms to the labor market. "It is absurd that people are registered as unemployed in the construction industry, yet there is no place for them because of the number of foreign workers. I'm not [even] talking about illegal workers, of whom there are more than 100,000."

Reforms of the capital market. Neeman said these include long-term savings, much of which would be in line with the proposals of the disregarded Brodet Committee report on the need to modernize the markets.

Tax reform. He refused to detail planned changes or indicate a possible timetable.

## Gov't lists defense plants up for privatization

By STEVE RODAN

The government has drafted a list of divisions of state-owned defense industries that would be suitable for eventual privatization, a senior official said yesterday.

Tzippi Livni, director of the Government Companies Authority, said that such bodies as the Finance Ministry, Defense Ministry, and her office have decided which units of the three state-owned defense firms could be sold. The government companies are Israel Aircraft Industries, TAAS-Israel Industries, and Rafael (the Armaments Development Authority).

"There is a consensus on privatization of the defense industries as well as a list of what to privatize and what to leave alone," Livni said. "What is not agreed upon is how to privatize and the extent of consolidation."

Livni said other disagreements include the rate of privatization and a timetable for launching the effort. She said so far the government has not included the defense industries in its plans to sell state-owned companies.

But the government has now accepted the principle of privatization of the industry, Livni said. This includes the Defense Ministry, which has been the most resistant to privatizing even parts of the large state-owned companies, which have more than 22,000 employees.

"I think that a few years ago it was difficult to put together the term 'privatization of the defense industries,'" Livni said. "Today, we have a consensus of what should be privatized."

It could be that this will be realized in 5 or 10 years.

Defense industry sources said the most likely candidates for eventual privatization would be the civilian portions of the government companies. This would include large parts of IAI, which has expanded its civilian sector over the last six years, and lesser portions of TAAS and Rafael, both of which focus on defense production.

Livni, who earlier spoke at a Jerusalem conference on the economy, is one of several officials involved in the careful preparation of a reorganization of the state-owned defense industries. For the past year, a Defense Ministry panel has been completing a study that recommends the privatization and consolidation of defense industries.

The study warns that the current rebound of the defense industries, particularly the 1997 profits recorded by two government-owned companies, will not last unless there is a reorganization of the sector. Both IAI and TAAS predict an increase in earnings this year.

The panel, headed by Maj.-Gen. (res.) Moshe Peled, ministry adviser on the defense industries, is to present its recommendations to Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu over the next few weeks. During his campaign in 1996, Netanyahu called for the privatization of most of the defense industries, but as prime minister, he and his economic aides have avoided the issue.

A Peled committee member who did not want to be identified said the study does not contain a program of privatization, but rather determines principles. A key recommendation calls for the reversal of years of Defense Ministry policy to encourage competition among its Israeli suppliers, to obtain the lowest prices.

This policy resulted in numerous complaints from defense executives. One senior executive for a private defense contractor recalled how the ministry delayed for about a year an award of a contract to his firm because of the lack of a local competitor.

Later, another company entered the bid, although it did not have a similar system in production. In the end, the competitor lost the bid.

The Peled panel met with dozens of defense industry executives and toured several factories to prepare the study. A final draft is expected in June, after the panel completes discussing ways to implement its recommendations.

Former finance minister Avraham Shochat said the biggest government opponent of starting the process of privatization is the defense minister, an assertion denied by his aides. He said the reason for the opposition is largely political rather than defense-related.

"The finance minister wants it," he said, "but the issue hasn't even reached the Knesset. The defense minister is not pushing it for political, not security, reasons. I have no idea when this process could begin."

## Propper: Set Western-level interest rates

By NINA GILBERT

Interest rates should be lowered gradually, twice a month, to the point where the real rate is about four percent, the level accepted in Western countries, Manufacturers Association president Dan Propper said yesterday.

At present, real interest rates reach as high as 15%, he said.

According to Propper, unemployment could reach 9% this year, or some 220,000 jobs, if the government does not change its monetary and fiscal policies to correspond with the economic situation.

"Immediate steps must be taken to invest in infrastructure and to encourage expansion of the industrial work force," he said.

Propper said the government should invest about NIS 2 billion in roads, railways, energy, communications and R&D.

The 6.5% increase in the number of jobs in March is a part of the ongoing upward trend caused directly by the recession in the economy, he said.

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## Peretz: Gov't increasing unemployment

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN

Histadrut Chairman MK Amir Peretz yesterday accused the government and Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel of increasing unemployment deliberately to

score "macro-economic" points at the expense of the public.

"It's very possible the finance minister and bank governor say to themselves: okay, so there are 200,000 unemployed people. But we've beaten inflation, we've saved price hikes, we're pushing wages downwards."

Peretz, who visited Negev plants yesterday, said he has seen people left with no means of subsistence at all, "and entire townships collapsing under the weight of growing unemployment. Things have reached an intolerable stage. If the finance minister and prime minister stand idly by, they will be partners to the results, and it will [be clear] the policy of the State of Israel is to increase unemployment to obtain other economic objects, at the expense of the workers and the unemployed."

"A macro policy that does not serve people as human beings is not worthy of existing at all, for it's

a situation in which the operation succeeded, but the patient died," stated Peretz.

Peretz said unemployment damages not only those ejected from their work places, but also the workers still employed. "Because when there's unemployment, all workers are afraid of losing their jobs and refrain from fighting for their rights and wage increases, and wages are pushed to the bottom," he said.

Suleiman Abu Hamid, of Kuseifa, told Peretz of the dire situation in the township, which has the highest percentage of unemployed workers in the country.

Abu Hamid said most Kuseifa residents contributed their share to the country's security, "but we are badly discriminated against. When other townships were inflicted with unemployment, like Ofakim, the entire state leadership, including the prime minister and the president, went down there."

## Sahar wins \$800m. B-G 2000 insurance contract

By DAN GERSTENFELD

Sahar Israel Insurance has won a contract worth an estimated \$800 million to insure the Ben-Gurion 2000 project.

The company said that earnings premium from the deal are estimated at \$2m. and includes insuring the infrastructure, construction and installment of the equipment.

The expanded Ben-Gurion Airport will handle more than double the present number of passengers.

Gideon Hamburger, Sahar's chairman of the board, said the contract is the largest and most complicated contractor all-risk insurance and employers liability deal ever made here.

The project will be administered by Sahar, together with

AON Corporation, the world's second largest insurance broker, which will also act as a consultant to the project.

Hamburger said that four local insurance companies and four foreign ones were competing for the project, which is expected to last four years.

Royal & Sun Alliance Insurance Group, Britain largest insurance company, will act as the reinsurer company for the project.

Royal & Sun is the holding company for the multinational insurance companies Sun Alliance Group and Royal Insurance Holdings.

Sahar, a subsidiary of Harel Hamishmar Investments, was chosen last year to act as a network partner representing Royal & Sun in Israel.

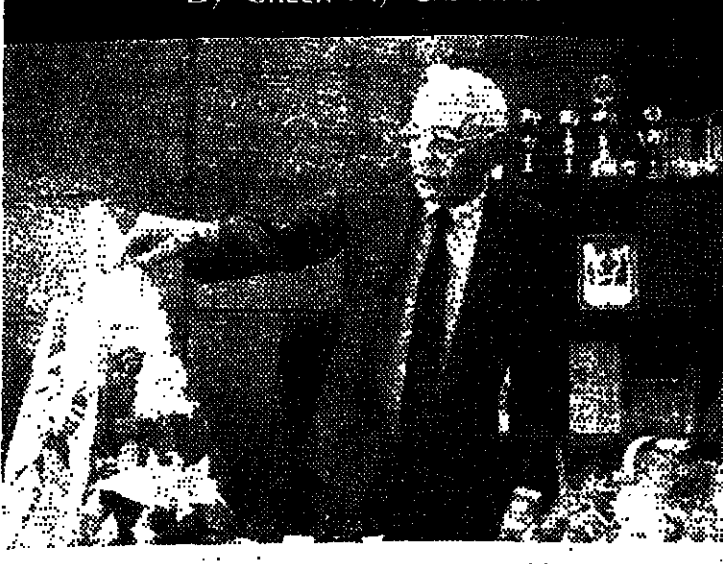
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## THE BUSINESS SCENE

By GREER FAY CASHMAN



Uri Porat (above), the new director-general of the Israel Broadcasting Authority, returned this week to the position he vacated over a decade ago. He was welcomed back by numerous floral tributes. Porat has promised to try to secure additional funds for more IBA productions. His previous stint as IBA director-general was marked by an increase in funding and greater creativity emanating from the Israel Television studios in Ramat Gan, Jerusalem.

The Israel Institute of Public Opinion Surveys' Fifth Annual Conference for Business Cooperation was attended this week by IBA Vice President Dr. Speciosa Wandira Kazibwe, Africa's most senior female politician. The conference, which was organized by the institute's general manager, Arie Tauber, focused on project development, technology transfer and agricultural development. Other attendees included delegates from Russia, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Hungary, Romania, Uganda and Cameroon. Microsoft, Motorola, Tandem and Sapient were among a host of companies that made presentations during the conference.

Moshe Badash, the managing director of Picanti Food Industries, is suing Osem's management for NIS 97 million for allegedly instituting a cartel that effectively pushed out of the market those Picanti products that competed with Osem products.

David Schneeweiss, the former interpreter for Geshet leader David Levy during his term as foreign minister under the Netanyahu administration, has been appointed press attaché to the Israeli Embassy in London. Schneeweiss, generally known as D.J., was seconded back into

the translators pool during British Prime Minister Tony Blair's visit. He translated the Hebrew questions at the joint press conference of Blair and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. A native English speaker who hails from Australia, Schneeweiss takes up his new appointment in the summer.

Fiona Samberg has been appointed manager of guest relations at the Dan Hotel, Tel Aviv, replacing Sharon Arbel, who is now working as sales manager at the Dan Accadia. Samberg was previously in charge of guest relations at the King David Hotel, Jerusalem, where she worked for 11 years.

With the retirement of Yossi Peretz as manager of the deposits department of Bank Discount, the bank's executive board has decided to unite the deposits and savings departments under one umbrella. The newly merged department is headed by Irit Taub, who previously managed the savings department. Taub holds an MBA from Tel Aviv University.

Dr. Irit Pinhasi has been named deputy corporate vice president of the R & D Division of Teva Pharmaceutical Industries. A biochemist and pharmacologist, Pinhasi has an impressive history of discoveries resulting from her research. She has worked with Teva since 1986 and has held a series of senior positions.

Shosh Berlinski, director general of the Israel Trade Fairs and Convention Center, has announced that for the first time in the history of the Man and His World Exhibition, which takes place each summer at the Tel Aviv Fair Grounds, there will be a Vietnamese exhibit.

Even though he is widely hailed today as a master deal maker, NationsBank Corp. Chairman Hugh L. McColl Jr. wasn't always so deft at making his company's acquisitions pay off. After helping engineer a couple of bank purchases in Florida in 1982, McColl and other top executives were caught off-guard by the swift, and costly, resignations of roughly 70 percent of the officers there.

McColl said that when NationsBank imposed a dramatically new operating set-up at the Florida banks, it blundered by ignoring the views of employees and "underestimating people's psychological resistance to change. We won't do that again."

These days McColl, fresh from last week's announcement of a \$62.5 billion merger deal between NationsBank and BankAmerica Corp., exudes confidence about his company's ability to stitch together and manage the two sprawling organizations—and any other future acquisitions he snaps up.

Yet history has shown that running the corporate giants produced by mega-mergers is a daunting challenge, and one that may result in failure more often than success. In a study two years ago that used stock market performance as a gauge, Mercer Management Consulting found that nearly half of the larger mergers of the 1990s have flopped. Among the very biggest deals, three-quarters have proved to be failures.

In crafting high-profile mergers, "everyone gets focused on the deal and then goes off for the champagne dinner. The question is whether there is a team sitting there with an integration plan the next morning. Often there isn't," said Kenyon Hodge, a Mercer vice president and co-author of the study.

Botched mergers mean turmoil for customers and the employees who hold onto their jobs, along with layoffs for thousands of other workers, including cutbacks that might have been avoidable.

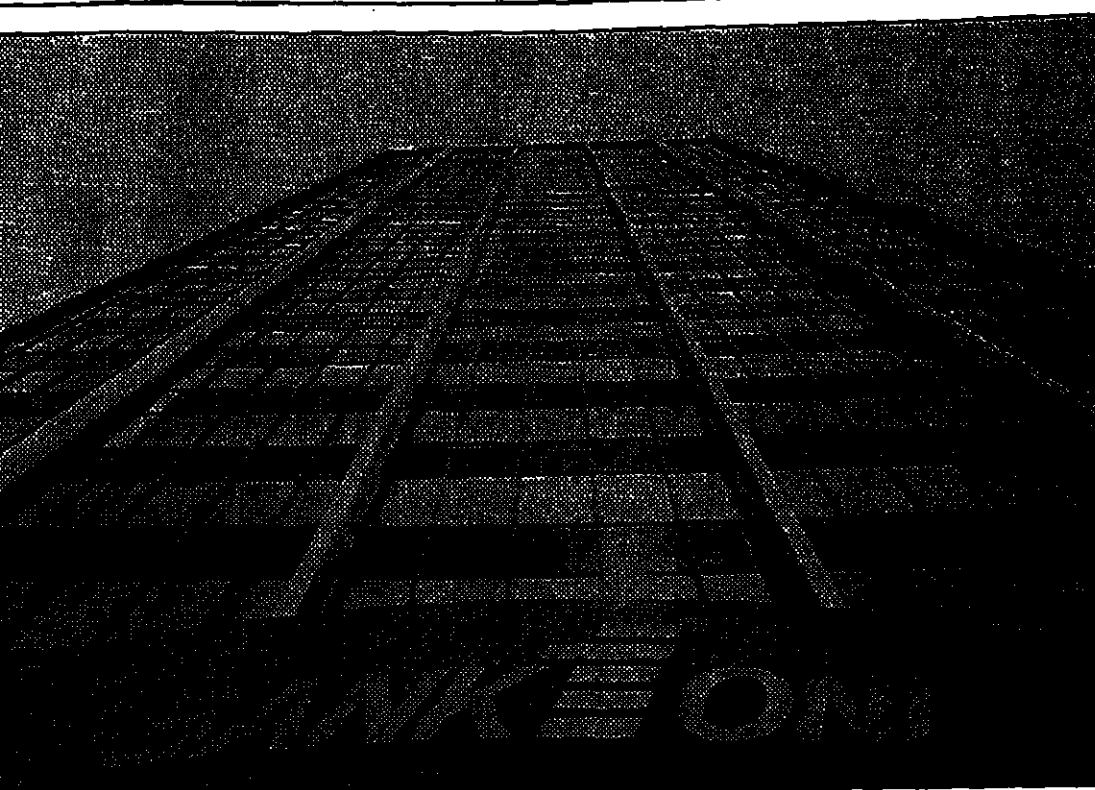
This month saw three of the four biggest merger pacts in US history—the proposed \$83b. Travelers Group-Citicorp combination, along with NationsBank-BankAmerica, and Banc One Corp.'s planned \$29b. acquisition of First Chicago NBD Corp.

Mega-mergers tend to fail for many reasons. Sometimes buyers simply pay more than the acquisition is worth. In other cases, executives never devise or execute a plan to take advantage of the economies of scale or complementary products and services of the merging organizations.

Perhaps more than anything else,

# The urge to merge

What makes a successful corporate marriage? Stuart Silverstein and Debora Vrana examine the multi-billion dollar mergers of the '90s for the answer



Banc One Corp.'s \$29b. acquisition of First Chicago NBD Corp. will be one of the biggest merger pacts in US history—which doesn't bode well for their shared future: Three-quarters of the largest deals have proved to be failures.

senior management stumbles over so-called "cultural" issues. In other words, the two sides never learn to communicate and work together.

THAT WAS the problem when AT&T bought NCR Corp. in 1991 after a nasty takeover battle. Initially, the \$7b. deal was touted as a natural convergence of the global telecommunications and computer industries. But after piling up losses at NCR that eventually totaled \$4b., AT&T decided in 1995 to call it quits and to spin off the Dayton, Ohio-based cash register and computer systems concern.

What went wrong? Among other things, AT&T antagonized NCR staffers by installing one of its own executives to run the company. NCR personnel chafed when AT&T changed the company's name to AT&T Global Information Solutions (The name was changed back to NCR only after AT&T gave up on the company).

At AT&T management meetings, "You'd see all NCR people huddled off by themselves. They were foreigners," said a consultant who worked with the companies.

THE SECRECY that is essential

in merger negotiations between public companies can lead to problems later on. When only a handful of top people are included in the talks before the deal goes to a board vote, important middle managers with key information can't be consulted.

Without divulging the names of the corporations involved, Mercer's Hodge cited a merger deal between two specialty chemical companies. After the agreement was completed, Hodge said, the manufacturing chief of one of the companies suggested that "we can save money by combining our sales forces." The head of sales at the same company shot back: "Our sales force is in the US and theirs is in Europe."

There is no cost savings. I thought we were saving money by closing plants." Mega-mergers between companies in the same, or similar, industries generally have a better chance of success, partly because cost savings are easier to achieve and goals are easier to determine. Take, for instance, another bank merger—the 1995 combination of Chase Manhattan Corp. and Chemical Banking Corp.

At the beginning, the corporate

cultures seemed worlds apart. Chase was known for its ties to the Rockefeller and its world-class art collection, while Chemical was aimed at the mass market.

The process was guided by the steady hand of Chemical Chairman and Chief Executive Walter Shipley, who gained valuable experience with his bank's 1991 purchase of Manufacturers Hanover Trust.

What went right? "Expectations have to be clear and strategies have to be clear—but the most important issue is trust," said Charles Raben, vice chairman of the Delta Consulting Group, which assisted in the Chemical-Chase merger. "It's just like a marriage." Along with cultivating trust, experts say, the keys to success in pulling together merging companies are crafting a shared vision for the organization, developing a precise transition plan and avoiding the common pitfall of focusing so much on the merger that customers are neglected.

Analysts say a stellar example was set by the 1989 pharmaceutical industry merger of SmithKline Beecham of Philadelphia and British-based Beecham Group. Instead of imposing a transition

plan from the top, the companies tapped more than 2,000 of their middle managers and divided them among more than 200 teams to figure out how to forge a new company. "From the very beginning, they were learning how to work together," said Joanne T. Lawrence, who headed the companies' "culture change" initiative and who now works as a management consultant.

The heads of the two merger partners, SmithKline's Henry Wendt and Beecham's Robert Bauman, carefully avoided any hint of rivalry. Early on, they decided to leave the company at the same time, in 1994, when they yielded control to an executive brought in after the merger, Ian Leschly.

As a result, two second-tier pharmaceutical companies blossomed into a major health-care industry business, now known as SmithKline Beecham, with a market capitalization that has skyrocketed eightfold over the past seven years to \$56.3b.

Even aside from the day-to-day complications of absorbing a merger or acquisition, directing a company with billions in revenues and assets, tens of thousands of employees and operations across the nation or around the globe can be a mind-boggling task.

The best solution for top executives, many leading consultants and academic authorities say, is to focus on leading and inspiring people in the organization—and to forget about trying to manage the company themselves. Instead, they advise, split a company into small units and delegate the authority for running them to local hands-on managers.

Global competition propelled McColl and David Coulter, chairman and chief executive of BankAmerica, toward their mega-merger announcement last week.

To start meshing their organizations, the two divided merger-related responsibilities among six top executives, including themselves. "Each one of us knows what our job is," said Coulter, the merged company's No. 2 executive. Coulter is expected to step up into the top job when McColl reaches his anticipated retirement date in the year 2000.

They also are taking to heart merger experts' common advice: to keep in touch with each other and their staffs. McColl and Coulter, constantly in touch by e-mail, flew cross-country the two days after the merger announcement to meet with rank-and-file employees on both coasts and calm their fears. The merged company will employ 180,000.

(Los Angeles Times)

## MUTUAL FUNDS

Fund's name	unit cost	redemption price	monthly yield (%)	1998 (%)	NIS assets (millions)
<b>FLEXIBLE</b>					
Adia	235.98	235.26	+2.71	+5.81	18.7
Adia Flexible	106.06	106.72	+2.31	+8.16	29.0
Adia Fund	210.54	207.63	+1.50	+0.89	20.8
Adia Fund	247.57	247.57	+2.71	+7.19	3.2
Adia Fund	109.70	107.85	+3.00	—	8.8
Adia Fund	780.00	789.91	+3.99	+5.40	68.8
Adia Fund	120.13	120.59	+6.74	+17.06	19.5
Adia Fund	114.41	112.16	+8.49	+19.56	0.4
Adia Fund	202.21	204.34	+3.97	+9.99	8.0
Adia Fund	31.2	31.2	—	—	—
Adia Fund	1207.17	1203.80	+1.55	+16.16	5.6
Adia Fund	235.92	235.30	+4.45	+11.26	26.7
Adia Fund	198.89	198.89	+4.17	+10.58	12.8
Adia Fund	357.99	354.83	+3.36	+8.23	79.3
Adia Fund	106.16	102.33	+3.21	+2.44	44.7
Adia Fund	433.54	428.17	+4.45	+8.51	34.4
Adia Fund	171.54	170.93	+4.76	+9.89	8.0
Adia Fund	130.01	128.85	+3.10	+5.95	10.3
Adia Fund	3218.14	3175.97	+4.47	+8.82	8.0
Adia Fund	105.44	104.92	+3.27	+8.84	12.2
Adia Fund	172.55	171.45	+3.78	+8.68	24.6
Adia Fund	136.23	136.23	+1.02	+4.41	214.8
Adia Fund	167.48	164.27	+5.49	+7.53	4.1
Adia Fund	180.10	179.46	+5.49	+7.53	29.7
Adia Fund	3498.18	3480.51	+3.83	+7.69	77.9
Adia Fund	135.03	135.03	+10.94	—	3.4
Adia Fund	800.08	797.96	+5.87	+8.67	71.9
Adia Fund	1694.06	1694.06	+3.28	+5.57	6.0
Adia Fund	100.75	99.49	+4.85	+22.26	11.2
Adia Fund	171.17	169.04	+4.85	+22.26	11.2
Adia Fund	104.74	104.74	+5.10	+17.10	3.3
Adia Fund	173.62	171.78	+5.80	+10.12	3.3
Adia Fund	113.58	111.85	+2.25	+10.39	0.9
Adia Fund	114.16	111.85	+2.25	+10.39	0.9
Adia Fund	104.86	102.86	+4.96	+8.39	4.3
Adia Fund	104.86	102.86	+4.96	+8.39	4.3
Adia Fund	2794.44	2794.44	+0.78	+33.99	22.0
Adia Fund	114.32	113.93	+4.13	+6.95	0.5
Adia Fund	114.32	113.93	+4.13	+6.95	0.5
Adia Fund	213.80	210.03	+5.20	+3.84	24.0
Adia Fund	105.69	103.88	+3.24	+4.67	5.3
Adia Fund	105.69	103.88	+3.24	+4.67	5.3
Adia Fund	947.44	942.73	+3.55	+4.84	314.4
Adia Fund	546.80	536.15	+3.01	+12.28	198.9
Adia Fund	362.54	359.54	+3.80	+13.76	94.9
Adia Fund	177.71	177.55	+1.91	+5.44	7.1
Adia Fund	203.46	202.71	+3.59	+8.89	198.0
Adia Fund	103.26	103.17	+5.42	+8.34	9.8
Adia Fund	226.31	224.46	+4.28	+12.86	71.8
Adia Fund	127.68	127.20	+3.18	+10.84	4.0
Adia Fund	107.42	107.19	+3.08	+4.74	3.5
Adia Fund	328.50	318.16	+2.69	+5.25	41.6
Adia Fund	78.35	78.35	+3.04	—	3.1
Adia Fund	16870.09	16762.93	+6.78	+18.06	3.5
<b>SHARES</b>					
Adia Fund	118.98	118.89	+1.20	+3.23	89.6
Adia Fund	295.14	291.04	+2.39	+4.91	18.7
Adia Fund	147.01	144.08	+0.81	+6.81	1.9
Adia Fund	224.83	224.83	+1.82	+1.79	10.2
Adia Fund	367.16	360.84	+3.87	+9.70	4.3
Adia Fund	129.23	128.75	+3.72	+8.85	47.8
Adia Fund	399.96	390.56	+3.58	+8.03	59.5
Adia Fund	120.15	119.88	+1.75	+10.16	12.5
Adia Fund	241.48	240.79	+4.71	+11.70	12.3
Adia Fund	121.16	120.92	+6.04	+12.83	4.0
Adia Fund	126.56	124.35	+2.79	+6.03	9.0
Adia Fund	161.78	161.42	+3.21	+8.25	2.9
Adia Fund	114.83	113.83	+4.88	+10.25	15.9
Adia Fund	222.08	220.86	+5.16	+8.21	65.7
Adia Fund	126.24	126.26	+3.09	+2.01	55.1
Adia Fund	140.96	139.79	+4.75	+12.00	33.2
Adia Fund	78.35	78.35	+3.04	—	3.1
Adia Fund	348.71	346.97	+0.45	+3.04	35.0
Adia Fund	1712.30	1702.93	+4.88	+9.29	10.8
Adia Fund	121.91	119.40	+3.24	+6.11	25.2
Adia Fund	132.29	132.29	+3.24	+6.11	25.2
Adia Fund	52.71	52.71	+3.18	+9.81	11.6

Fund's name	unit cost	redemption price	monthly yield (%)	1998 (%)	NIS assets (millions)
<b>FIXED INCOME</b>					
Adia High Tech	235.98	235.13	+5.32	+8.00	9.1
Adia Mid	106.06	106.72	+2.31	+8.16	48.9
Adia Small	210.54	207.63	+1.50	+14.35	20.8
Adia Strategic	247.57	247.57	+2.71	+7.19	3.2
Adia TA 100	109.70	107.85	+3.00	+11.84	12.8
Adia Tech	780.00	789.91	+3.99	+9.99	50.9
Adia Tech	120.13	120.59	+6.74	+17.06	19.5
Adia Tech	235.92	235.30	+4.45	+11.26	26.7
Adia Tech	198.89	198.89	+4.17	+10.58	12.8
Adia Tech	357.99	354.83	+3.36	+8.23	79.3
Adia Tech	106.16	102.33	+3.21	+2.44	44.7
Adia Tech	433.54	428.17	+4.45	+8.51	34.4
Adia Tech	171.54	170.93	+4.76	+9.89	8.0
Adia Tech	130.01	128.85	+3.10	+5.95	10.3
Adia Tech	3218.14	3175.97	+4.47	+8.82	8.0
Adia Tech	105.44	104.92	+3.27	+8.84	12.2
Adia Tech	172.55	171.45	+3.78	+8.68	24.6
Adia Tech	136.23	136.23	+1.02	+4.41	214.8
Adia Tech	167.48	164.27	+5.49	+7.53	4.1
Adia Tech	180.10	179.46	+5.49	+7.53	29.7
Adia Tech	3498.18	3480.51	+3.83	+7.69	77.9
Adia Tech	135.03	135.03	+10.94	—	3.4
Adia Tech	800.08	797.96	+5.87	+8.67	71.9
Adia Tech	1694.06	1694.06	+3.28	+5.57	6.0
Adia Tech	100.75	99.49	+4.85	+22.26	11.2
Adia Tech	171.17	169.04	+4.85	+22.26	11.2
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Adia Tech	173.62	171.78	+5.80	+10.12	3.3
Adia Tech	113.58	111.85	+2.25	+10.39	0.9
Adia Tech	114.16	111.85	+2.25	+10.39	0.9
Adia Tech	104.86	102.86	+4.96	+8.39	4.3
Adia Tech	104.86	102.86	+4.96	+8.39	4.3
Adia Tech	2794.44	2794.44	+0.78	+33.99	22.0
Adia Tech	114.32	113.93	+4.13	+6.95	0.5
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Adia Tech	105.69	103.88	+3.24	+4.67	5.3
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70.00%	12.00%

	LAST	CHANGE
Inland	78.00	+2.00
Intel Corp.	41.12	+0.75
Interstate	4.45	+0.125
Int'l Flm & Fr	47.875	+0.125
Int'l Trade	29.25	+0.125
Int'l Paper	55.175	+1.875
Interpac	62.0625	-0.75
Johnson P.	60.8625	-0.5
Johnson & J.	70.75	-0.625
K Mart	18.5625	-0.125
Kaiser Alum.	10.1875	+0.0625
Kellogg	41.125	-0.55
KLA Instruments	81.625	+1.375
Kernco	12.5625	-0.175
Kerncochem	68.8875	+0.375
Kay Corp.	40.625	-0.625
Kimberly-Clark	50.1875	+1.1
King World Prod.	29.375	+0.125
Knight Rdr	43.75	-0.125
Kroger	43.75	-0.125
LSI Logic	26.575	-0.0625
Lampf & Platt	55.875	0
Lantern Natl	30.125	-0.125
Lary (F)	7.75	-0.1575
Leach	31.875	-0.75
Lennax Inc.	76.575	+0.875
Lincoln Natl	91.3125	-0.375
Litton	6.875	-0.125
LI Distributors	46.8125	+1.0625
Liquid Carbon Corp.	100.625	-0.625
Loews Corp.	10.125	-0.0625
Lone Star	78.75	+0.125
Louisiana	29.875	-0.125
Louisiana Dris	29.5625	-0.0625
Louisiana Pacel	91.3125	-0.125
Louisiana Pacel	58.75	-0.125
Luxon Inc.	74.25	-2.125
Madison	38.5	-0.5
Magnetics	4.65	-0.375
MACI Common	51.8625	-0.0625
Mallinckrodt	27.1875	-0.675
Mallinckrodt	37.5	-0.375
Mapco Inc.	33.75	-0.375
Marsh & McLin	93.875	-0.5
Marvell	41.5625	0
Marshall Corp.	10.025	+0.125
Massachusetts Corp.	26.375	0
Mattel Inc.	41.025	-0.125
Matco Int'l St.	52.4375	-0.0625
Mayerd Corp.	43.8125	-0.375
McChesney	31.875	-1.15
McGraw Hill	78	-0.25
Medcochem	51.875	-1.25
Medco Corp.	36.6675	-1.4375
Medtronic	59.25	-0.25
Mechrolab	41.4375	-0.375
Merck Brothers	80.675	-0.375
Merckville Bros.	120.125	-1.25
Meritor Corp.	41.125	+1.875
Merrill Lynch	92.125	-1.5625
Messersmith	29.5	-0.125
Microsoft Corp.	35	-0.375
Microfilm Energy	71.4375	-0.375
Mini Safety App.	34.75	0
Minnesota Mine	87.125	-0.25
Minotek	29.5	-0.3125
Modcor Corp.	78.75	+0.875
Mobile Equip.	25.6675	-0.4375
Modular	50.75	-0.125
Mohr	8.0625	-0.0625
Mohrman Machn.	8.0625	-0.125
Monsanto	140.00	-1.8125
Monsanto	31.8625	-0.5
Morton Int'l	57.125	-0.0625
Motrola Inc.	50.875	-1.1875
Mucos Inds	156.825	+3.625
Nasco Chemical	40.0625	+0.3125
Nashua Corp.	15.4375	-0.1
Nasdaq	7.0	0
Nat'l City Corp.	73.25	-1.1875
Nat'l Sem.	23.6625	-0.25
Nat'l Steel	25.4375	-0.25
Nat'l Steel Inds.	116.25	-0.25
Navstar Int'l	92.25	-0.25
Noranda	21.125	-1.0625
New England Ent.	43.4375	-0.4375
News Corp.	39.875	-0.375
NV Star	40.0625	-0.1875
NV Times	12.125	-0.0625
Northwestern Mfg.	33.375	-0.125
Norwalk	73.25	-0.1875
Norcor Inc.	40.0625	-0.1875
Norfolk	57.5	-0.375
Northern	18.375	-0.375
Ni Industries	46.875	-0.125
Noke AIB	43.1875	-0.375
Nordstrom	57.5	-0.375
Northern	85.875	-0.25

[illegible]







## Crying all the way to the Eubank

THERE IS no doubt who was Britain's sporting hero this week - Brighton-based boxer Chris Eubank who lost the WBO

### LONDON CALLING

world cruiser-weight title to American Carl Thompson on points in what has been described as a classic Eubank

came up two weight divisions and was finally beaten by a man nearly a stone heavier. His performance finally endeared him to the sporting press after a long battle of antagonism.

Eubank had his chances in the second and fourth rounds to finish off his opponent - and once again we saw the cocky Eubank strut round the ring when he had Thompson in trouble. But instead of going on to win, Eubank took a merciless pounding as the fight wore on and he had to spend two nights in a Manchester hospital after the contest. Referee Roy Francis said Eubank was so brave "it made you cry," while promoter Frank Warren classed the contest as one of the top three fights he had staged. There is no doubt that Eubank went into the fight for the money - he still has a lavish lifestyle to finance, including driving round Brighton on a 1000cc motorbike.

THE SOCCER news is that Arsenal is seemingly unstoppable after their 5-0 victory over Wimbledon, while Manchester United only drew with Newcastle. On Saturday, Arsenal visit Barnsley while Manchester play at Crystal Palace on Monday. Palace managed their first home win of the season on Saturday to keep alive a mathematical chance of avoiding relegation. The bookmakers take a dim view of faint chances and have stopped taking bets on them going down.

Good news for Palace was the

announcement by Terry Venables in Monday's *Evening Standard* that he is definitely taking over as manager next season, whichever Division they are in.

One club which could replace Palace in the Premiership are near neighbor

Charlton Athletic who are well placed for either an automatic promotion or a playoff place having won seven consecutive matches. And in the high-finance world of modern soccer, it is refreshing to see a club with a modest bank balance and old-fashioned values doing so well.

Meanwhile, a new war of words has developed between Chelsea chairman and former coach Ruud Gullit. Bates used the club program to respond to comments Gullit had made about his sacking to launch a blistering attack calling him a "part-time playboy manager" who "carried out his lucrative commercial contracts at the expense of training."

Gullit's representative responded by stating that the Pizza Hut advert, the launch of the designer wear, the campaign for the Dutch Tourist Board and the work for the BBC all took place outside training.

AS YOU read this, hundreds of thousands of Brits are concentrating on a common cause. They are dialing a number and will be greeted by either a permanent engaged tone, or if they are lucky, by a French person ready to take lots of money off them.

It's the scramble for the extra 200,000 World Cup tickets which organizers are placing on sale this morning, courtesy of a phone line which EEC residents can book tickets with a credit card. The sale is expected to break a record for the amount of tickets sold - all 200,000 should be snapped up inside 1 1/2 hours.

## Hoddle's 'Mumbo Jumbo' preparations

LONDON (Reuters) - England face Portugal in a World Cup warm-up match at Wembley today looking for a new dimension on the pitch as well as off it.

After two disappointing performances, England need to beat one of the strongest sides that failed to reach the World Cup finals in order to calm anxieties and answer questions that have multiplied by the day.

With the pre-match talk taking in a bizarre mixture of faith healing, fork-bending and mystic crystals, there can be no doubt England are eager to move to a higher plane. Down on the pitch, much remains to be done.

They lost their last home match 2-0 to World Cup finalists Chile in February and were then held to a 1-1 draw by non-qualifiers Switzerland in Bern last month after a mass of players pulled out injured.

Reflecting the waning fortunes of champions Manchester United, some of the top goalscorers have gone off the boil. And England have not beaten Portugal in five matches over 29 years.

Questions have begun to bubble, beyond the routine conjecture about which members of the huge squad make the final 22.

"Has Glenn Hoddle the Plot?" asked the *Daily Mail* newspaper yesterday, referring to Hoddle's announcement on Monday that he had drafted in a faith-healer.

Hoddle said Eileen Drewery was staying at the team's hotel before the match and more than three quarters of the squad had been to



WALKING WOUNDED - Middlesbrough's Paul Gascoigne hopes to play in the World Cup warm-up against Portugal today despite being hampered by groin and ankle injuries. (Reuters)

see her in the past 18 months.

Hoddle's comments prompted predictable jokes. "The immediate reaction to Hoddle's amazing press conference was that England would fly to France on a new kind of airplane. A Mumbo Jumbo," wrote the *Mail's* soccer editor.

"Heaven Help Us," said the *Daily Mirror*.

The *Mail* also said fork-bender Uri Geller, who it said claimed to be a Hoddle confidant, had prepared a booklet containing positive stories and prayers for England players to insert behind

their shinpads when in action.

Geller, who has no known link with the England team, also reportedly revealed that he had sneaked into the Marseille stadium where England play Tunisia in the World Cup on June 15 and planted "positive energy crystals."

While some scoffed, Arsenal's often fiery striker Ian Wright leapt to Hoddle's defense saying he had benefited greatly from seeing Drewery over the past eight months.

Hoddle said he had always believed in different forms of healing. "As long as it is used in conjunction with conventional medicine and treatment then it can only be a good thing if it helps to get players fitter more quickly," he said.

Whatever the cynicism, Hoddle certainly needs a healer for a squad full of limping and suffering players at the end of a long season.

Middlesbrough midfielder Paul Gascoigne has groin and ankle injuries while teammate Paul Merson is suffering a calf strain.

Also absent will be Liverpool's Jamie Redknapp - ligaments - and Dominic Matteo with a cut foot.

Alan Shearer can be counted on in attack and will be captain. His partner will be Liverpool teenager Michael Owen or Manchester United's off-form Teddy Sheringham.

Arsenal goalkeeper David Seaman returns after missing the last two matches due to injury. The rest of the team could be highly experimental.

Portugal will be without key Fiorentina midfielder Rui Costa, who has a thigh injury.

England are most likely to field David Seaman, Tony Adams, Gareth Southgate, Gary Neville, Andy Hinchcliffe, Phil Neville, David Beckham, Paul Ince, David Batty, Alan Shearer and Michael Owen.

## Gearing up for Galilee bike ride

By HEATHER CHAT

Springtime in the Galilee is not only for the casual walker or nature lover - over two thousand cyclists will be covering the tracks on Saturday in the 'Round the Galilee' (Sovev Galil) ride.

The race, which in its seventh year, attracts more than three times any other bike competition in Israel and comprises the national mountain bike championships.

There are many attractions for the whole family with routes catering to both the daring and the more cautious, on mountain or road bikes.

The options include five rides, ranging from the competitive 53 kilometer road race and the 34km mountain bike race in the Gadot and Mahanyaim areas to the three popular rides which will follow the winding Jordan river.

The popular routes will cover distances of 53km, 25km and the family 18km ride, under

the auspices of the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel.

Pedaling-off point is at Kibbutz Gadot, with route 918 from Gadot to Gonen closed between 8.15 and noon.

The race is held in the memory of Eran Ofer and is organized by the Upper Galilee regional council together with the Israel Cycling Association.

Registration for the competitive races closes today. For more details: 02-6799922, 06-6939241 or 06-6951531.

## Bugner wins in ring, loses at home

OLD COAST, Australia (AP) - Thieves ransacked boxer Joe Bugner's home while he was successfully defending his Australian heavyweight title on Monday night.

The veteran boxer's car was stolen but later recovered.

Jewelry, VCRs and several thousand dollars worth of cash were also taken, Bugner said yesterday.

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Rates are valid until MAY 31 1998.

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### VEHICLES

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### VEHICLES

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### VEHICLES



## Too little, too late

### Why didn't the Wizards play like this all year?

Don't be misled by what you saw last week.

Don't be fooled into thinking that was the real Wizards, when it was the Wizards. I sense backsliding. I sense softening on the parts of people who watched what the Wizards did last week when their backs were against the wall. I sense optimism that last week was a turning point for this team — and now they are on the road to professionalism and maturity.

And I say: Don't let the last four games erase the previous 78.

Take the season as a whole. When you add it up, the whole equals so much less than the sum of these parts.

Oh, there's talent here. The Wizards won those last four games absent their most effective player, Rod Strickland. And three of those four games were against playoff teams.

There's talent. There just wasn't enough leadership, maturity and commitment from the best two players, Chris Webber and Juwan Howard.

The first time in months this team felt a sense of urgency came last week — and that came, not coincidentally, after it fully dawned on Webber and Howard that management was disgusted with them, and either or both might be traded away. Then they turned it on. They didn't want to be broken up.

You'll excuse me if I wonder: Why didn't you do this before? Enough of this chest-bumping, throat-slashing crapola. We're supposed to wait until you're in crisis mode for this kind of sustained effort? Is there anybody out there who doesn't think this team should have won 50 games, and made the playoffs?

How on earth does a team that beat Chicago, the Lakers, the Sonics and the Jazz twice end up in the lottery? I loved Howard brushing off the season after the Boston game, by saying: "We wish we weren't in this position, but you can't get caught up in that."

Whaddya mean you can't get caught up in that? If you can't get caught up in the fact that you've basically flushed the season, and you needed to depend on the kindness of others to get into the playoffs, what can you get caught up in? Isn't that cause for self-examination? Other guys in town may waffle about what this organization should do now. They might find it comfortable to sit on the fence and ruminate about what last week meant in the greater scheme of things. Well, it doesn't mean jack.

The Wizards need to move Webber or Howard.

A team can't be held hostage by the moods of its two most important players.

Look at Chicago. Scottie Pippen is alarmingly moody, and Dennis Rodman is pathologically whacked. But Michael Jordan holds that boat together. Jordan gives his best every time out, and doesn't settle for anything less from his teammates. The one year Jordan was

#### MY CALL

By TOMY KORNHEISEN

gone Pippen walked out on his team. Your best players have to be your best leaders. Had Webber and Howard shown that kind of emotional discipline and become true leaders — and not merely announced this was their team — we wouldn't be having this conversation.

It's nice to read how Chris Whitney proved himself to be a valuable player this past week, and how Ben Wallace impressed folks with his defensive energy, and how Calbert Cheaney always adjusts his game to fit the team's needs. But those guys are fungible parts on this team.

The whole ethos of this team is about Webber and Howard. And so far they've been more confounding than productive. They talk about winning, but they don't seem to be committed to the responsibilities of being professional basketball players.

The fact is they play the same position. But by playing the same position they become redundant. Washington has won 45 percent of those games where Webber and Howard were on the floor together. But in games where either one has been out, Washington has won 41 percent of the time. So you don't really need both. They don't complement each other. It's not like we're talking about Stockton and Malone.

I'm no revisionist. It was a coup getting Webber and Howard. I was for it then, and like everybody else I wanted it to work. But it hasn't. One playoff series in four years. That was great fun, but there was just one of those things.

It would be swell to think that Webber and Howard were scared straight. But they put on a mad sprint last year to make the playoffs, and all their comments indicated they had learned their lessons then. So this is two seasons in a row the Wizards have dug the same hole. And this time was worse because of all the notoriety.

How many \$85 tickets would you buy in January and February to see a team that didn't show up until April? Everywhere I went last week, Wizards fans said the same thing, in frustration: "Why didn't they do this before?"

(The Washington Post)

## NBA coaches

### Fitch, Hanzlik get walking papers

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Coach Bill Fitch was fired by the Los Angeles Clippers on Monday, two days after the perennial NBA doorman finished a 17-65 season.

Clippers vice president of basketball operations Elgin Baylor said he planned to compile a list of candidates for the coaching job within a few days.

Fitch, 63, coached the Clippers for four years, compiling a 99-229 record in Los Angeles, including 36-46 and a playoff berth last season. Hit hard by injuries this season, including the loss of floor leader Loy Vaught, the Clippers' record was the third worst in the NBA, behind only Denver, which won 11 games and fired its coach Monday, and Toronto, which won 16 games and saw its coach resign in February.

Fitch, who began his NBA coaching career with Cleveland in 1970, is second in league history in wins with 944, behind Lenny Wilkens, and first in losses with 1,106. He is the only man to coach more than 2,000 games.

Denver also started changing. Bill Hanzlik was let go as coach of the Nuggets, one of the worst teams in NBA history, after one year.

The Nuggets fired Hanzlik, 40, on Monday, one day after completing an 11-71 season, leaving the team rebuilding again and looking for its eighth coach this decade.

For almost the entire season, the Nuggets were a threat to surpass the league's worst record ever — 9-73 by the 1972-73 Philadelphia 76ers.

They managed to avoid that dubious record by two games and they did it with rookies and journeymen.

"The Nuggets' franchise must move forward and put this disappointing season behind," vice president and general manager Dan Issel said. "We will continue to evaluate every level of the organization and focus on returning the Nuggets to respectability in the NBA."

Issel's hiring, on March 25, seemed to seal Hanzlik's fate. Issel replaced Allan Bristow, who had hired Hanzlik, his good friend, but then became the first victim as he was fired in February.

"Bill Hanzlik is a good man," Issel said. "Bill Hanzlik was basically thrown into a no-win situation. Is it fair? Probably not."

In a series of questionable personnel moves that followed the loss of center Dikembe Mutombo in 1996, Mark Jackson, Dale Ellis, Ricky Pierce and Ervin Johnson departed last spring. Forward Antonio McDyeas was shipped off to Phoenix in October for draft picks after the Nuggets balked at his salary demands.

Those who remained to start the season included LaPhonso Ellis, Eric Williams, Bryant Stith and Johnny Newman.

# Chicago Bulls looking to three-peat



NEW YORK (AP) — When the National Basketball Association playoffs begin tomorrow, the Chicago Bulls will be favored to win their sixth championship of the 1990s, a run of success that has made them one of the greatest dynasties in professional sports history.

They won three straight titles from 1991-93, missed out in 1994-95 and 1995-96 when Michael Jordan was off playing minor league baseball, then won the last two.

Not only that, they dominated the league the past two seasons, going a combined 141-23 in the regular season and 30-7 in the postseason.

Their record dropped to 62-20 this season, the same record as the defending Western Conference champion Utah Jazz. But the Bulls built their mark despite playing through the distraction of Jordan threatening to retire, Scottie Pippen vowing to leave, coach Phil Jackson finishing out a one-year contract, general manager Jerry Krause trading Jason Caffey and other sideshows that would shake any other team.

Not this one. "We feel really comfortable with the team and we're better than we were last year going into the playoffs, although maybe not as good as (the 1995-96 team)," Jackson

said. "This is really the time when guys who have that experience shine and look forward to it, polish up their game."

Maybe for the last time as a unit. At the very least, a few of the Bulls will not be back next season. That mood of finality will permeate this postseason.

"It'll be a mercenary, monetary challenge, a winner-take-all kind of playoffs," Jackson said.

The best-of-5 first-round begins tomorrow night with four games: Atlanta at Charlotte, Cleveland at Indiana, Houston at Utah and San Antonio at Phoenix.

Four more series begin Friday night: New Jersey at Chicago, New York at Miami, Minnesota at Seattle, Portland at Los Angeles.

The Bulls will have the homecourt advantage through the Eastern Conference finals, and the odds are against anyone beating them — at least until the Finals.

"I guarantee this team is going to come back and look good. The mundane look will be gone," Jackson said Monday as he gave his team the day off.

"As a guy experienced in going through three-peats, our third championship series in the early '90s followed a year that was much more difficult than this year was. We were younger and more athletic, yet had a much harder struggle, and that team didn't look half as good as this team," Jackson said.

he Bulls will be playing a New Jersey Nets team that slumped over the second half of the season and didn't qualify until the last day of the season.

## Vaughn's extra-inning hit wins for Bosox; Arizona sweeps 1st-ever series

BOSTON (AP) — Mo Vaughn drove in his third run of the game with a two-out single in the bottom of the 11th inning, and the Boston Red Sox rallied to beat the Cleveland Indians 6-5 and complete a 9-1 homestand.

Boston, which had lost 10 of its previous 14 Patriots Day games, won in its last at-bat for the sixth time this season.

Jim Leyritz, who tied the game with a homer in the ninth, singled in the 11th and Eric Plunk (1-1) walked Damon Buford on four pitches. Vaughn then drove in the winning run.

Yankees 3, Blue Jays 2  
Second baseman Tony Fernandez made a two-out error in the top of the 11th inning that scored the go-ahead run for New York, which took advantage of Randy Myers' first blown save in nearly a year.

The Yankees rallied for two runs in the ninth against Myers, who had converted 37 straight save chances since last blowing one on May 3. New York won for the ninth time in 10 games and stopped the Blue Jays' three-game winning streak.

Mariners 6, Royals 7  
Ken Griffey Jr. hit his AL-leading eighth homer and drove in the winning run with a sacrifice fly as host Seattle won its sixth straight. Griffey homered in the third and capped the sixth with his sacrifice fly, which "brought in" Alex Rodriguez for his 22nd RBI, tied for the league lead with Juan Gonzalez of Texas.

The Mariners came back from a 6-1 deficit after 3 1/2 innings to help Randy Johnson avoid his second loss of the season.

Angels 4, Orioles 3  
Phil Nivin hit a two-run homer and the Angels, taking advantage of two calls on fan interference, won at home.

B.J. Surhoff thought he had a two-run homer in the first inning for the Orioles, but wound up with an RBI double when umpire Greg Kosc's call was reversed. Surhoff hit a high drive to right-center that a fan caught while reaching over the 18-foot wall. Kosc, the first base umpire, signaled a home run and Surhoff rounded the bases.

Angels right fielder Tim Salmon and manager Terry Collins argued, and Kosc talked it over with umpires Ken Kaiser, Larry Barnett and Ed Hickox before reversing the decision. Replays showed the ball would not have cleared the wall.

Athletics 3, Twins 2  
Rookie Ben Grieve hit his first homer of the season, a two-run shot off reliever Greg Swindell that gave Oakland a home victory. Trailing 2-1 in the eighth, the A's rallied off Swindell (0-1).



DELIVERING THE GOODS — Braves' Greg Maddux pitches against the Rockies on Monday. Maddux entered the game with an NL-leading 0.56 ERA.

Jason Giambi singled with one out, and after Matt Stairs struck out, Grieve lined an O-1 pitch over the right-centerfield wall for a 3-2 lead.

Buddy Groom (1-0) pitched one inning to earn the win.

NATIONAL LEAGUE  
Diamondbacks 15, Marlins 4

Devon White drove in three runs against his former club and expansion Arizona won a series for the first time. The host Diamondbacks defeated Livan Hernandez (2-2) in winning for the third time in four games against Florida.

Relief pitcher Gregg Olson hit a two-run homer in Arizona's highest-scoring game of the season. The Diamondbacks have won four of five overall from the Marlins.

Braves 7, Rockies 5

Andrew Jones homered twice. Chipper Jones had a two-run double and Greg Maddux survived a

rocky seventh inning as Atlanta won on the road.

Maddux (2-1) went eight complete innings, allowing eight hits and five runs with no walks and four strikeouts. His league-leading ERA rose from 0.56 to 1.35. Maddux also had seven assists and started two double plays.

### Yankee Stadium to reopen Friday

NEW YORK (AP) — Yankee Stadium will reopen for a game against the Tigers on Friday, 11 days after it was closed after a 500-pound steel beam tumbled from the upper deck and landed a seat. The 75-year-old stadium "has a clean bill of health," said Rudolph Giuliani said. The cleanup crew, which began work Monday, is best negotiating with the city for a new stadium. Giuliani proposed using the revenue from a city business tax to help fund construction of new stadiums in the city for the Yankees and Mets.

## Red Wings ready to defend Stanley Cup



NEW YORK (AP) — Not often is a National Hockey League coach happy with his team on a three-game losing streak going into the playoffs. So why is Detroit Red Wings coach Scotty Bowman smiling?

"I thought we did very well for the players that were missing," said Bowman, who rested many of his top players as the Red Wings closed their regular season last week. "We didn't fold the tent. I can't ask for much more than that."

It was all part of Detroit's preparation. The Red Wings' open defense of their Stanley Cup championship with a first-round Western Conference game against the Phoenix Coyotes today.

Other first-round games today: San Jose at Dallas and Edmonton at Colorado in the West, and Ottawa at New Jersey, Buffalo at Philadelphia and Boston at Washington in the East. Tomorrow, it's Los Angeles at St. Louis in the West and Montreal at Pittsburgh in the East.

With 103 points, the Red Wings finished with the third-best record in the league (44-23-15) and the No. 3 seed in the West, behind Dallas and Colorado.

The Red Wings have learned from experience that the top record doesn't guarantee a Stanley Cup. They won the Presidents' Trophy in both lockout-shortened 1994-95 and 1995-96, when they set a league record for victories with 62, yet failed to win the title. Last season, they won the league championship after finishing with the fifth-best record.

In the 30 seasons since expansion, only half the teams that had the highest point total during the regular season won the Cup. The only team to win both the President's Cup and the Stanley Cup in the previous eight seasons has been the 1994 New York Rangers.

A Stanley Cup victory would cap a tumultuous year for the Red Wings. Defenseman Vladimir Kostaninovich was lost after a head injury in an auto accident following a Stanley Cup celebration.

The Red Wings then traded goaltender Mike Vernon, who had led them to the championship and won the Conn Smythe Trophy as the best player in the playoffs. The Red Wings figured they had a good replacement in the younger Chris Osgood.

Then Sergei Fedorov was a contract holdout until late in the year, when the Red Wings matched a staggering offer sheet given the forward by the Carolina Hurricanes. Fedorov, once the league's MVP, came back strong after his holdout.

"Sergei has been really good," Red Wings captain Steve Yzerman said. "He has given us a boost in all areas of the game."

## Ref shows red card to himself

LONDON (AP) — An amateur soccer referee who punched a player — then showed himself the red card — has been banned from the game for six months.

Melvin Sylvester, a 42-year-old school caretaker, was refereeing a recreational match between the Southampton Arms and Hursbourne Tarrant British Legion in the Andover and District Sunday League.

Sylvester said he lost his temper when one of the players, 27-year-old Richard Curd, pushed him. "I was sorely provoked," he said. "I punched him several times after he had pushed me from behind. He then swore. I couldn't take any more. I blew my top."

Sylvester said he gave himself the red card and sent himself off. He was replaced by a spectator for the rest of the match.

MAJOR LEAGUE LEADERS	
AMERICAN LEAGUE	
BATTING—H.Morris, Kansas City, .437; J.Rodriguez, Texas, .433; J.Gonzalez, Texas, .405; McLam, Texas, .397; T.Gooden, Texas, .396; Segui, Seattle, .392; McGriff, Tampa Bay, .391.	
RUNS—A.Rodriguez, Seattle, 20; McLam, Texas, 19; Lawton, Minnesota, 18; Griffey Jr., Seattle, 16; Segui, New York, 15; 6 are tied with 14.	
RBIs—A.Rodriguez, Seattle, 20; H.Morris, Kansas City, 20; J.Gonzalez, Texas, 18; T.Martinez, New York, 18; A.Rodriguez, Seattle, 17; M.Ramirez, Cleveland, 17; Stevens, Texas, 17; Palmer, Kansas City, 17; Justice, Cleveland, 17.	
HITS—A.Rodriguez, Seattle, 31; H.Morris, Kansas City, 31; Segui, Seattle, 29; Griffey Jr., Seattle, 28; Oltman, Kansas City, 28; J.Gonzalez, Texas, 28; M.Vaughn, Boston, 27; Palmer, Kansas City, 27; McGriff, Tampa Bay, 27.	
HOME RUNS—Griffey Jr., Seattle, 8; A.Rodriguez, Seattle, 7; Canseco, Toronto, 7; Giles, Cleveland, 6; Salmon, Anaheim, 6; M.Vaughn, Boston, 6; Segui, Seattle, 6; Palmer, Kansas City, 6.	
STOLEN BASES—T.Gooden, Texas, 11; B.Hunter, Detroit, 10; Jeter, New York, 7; McDonald, Oakland, 6; A.Gonzalez, Toronto, 6; Lofton, Cleveland, 6; Oltman, Kansas City, 6.	
PITCHING (3 Decisions)—Helling, Texas, 3-0, 1.00, 1.98; Sele, Texas, 3-0, 1.00, 1.64; C.Finley, Anaheim, 3-0, 1.00, .58; Seiberthagen, Boston, 3-0, 1.00, 2.12; Erickson, Baltimore, 3-1, .750, 5.55; Alvarez, Tampa Bay, 3-1, .750, 3.00; Gooen, Boston, 3-1, .750, 2.55; K.Hill, Anaheim, 3-1, .750, 2.52.	
STRIKEOUTS—P.Martinez, Boston, 44; R.Johnson, Seattle, 39; Mussina, Baltimore, 30; C.Finley, Anaheim, 29; Radke, Minnesota, 27; Guzman, Toronto, 23; Moyer, Seattle, 23.	
SAVES—M.Jackson, Cleveland, 7; A.Benitez, Baltimore, 4; Ayala, Seattle, 4; Stanton, New York, 4; Gordon, Boston, 4; Westlund, Texas, 4; 6 are tied with 3.	
NATIONAL LEAGUE	
BATTING—Chones, Atlanta, .411; Bichette, Colorado, .409; Vina, Milwaukee, .408; R.Landolt, St. Louis, .400; Griffey Jr., Seattle, .394; Toubensee, Cincinnati, .377; BBoone, Cincinnati, .375.	
RUNS—Chones, Atlanta, 20; Floyd, Florida, 19; Biggio, Houston, 19; L.Walker, Colorado, 18; W.Greene, Cincinnati, 17; Bichette, Colorado, 17; Stynes, Cincinnati, 16.	
RBIs—Chones, Atlanta, 26; Cassia, Colorado, 24; McGwire, St. Louis, 24; C.Crispin, Atlanta, 20; Bumm, Milwaukee, 19; DeBell, Houston, 19; Bichette, Colorado, 19.	
HITS—Bichette, Colorado, 36; Vina, Milwaukee, 31; Chones, Atlanta, 30; Lansing, Colorado, 30; BBoone, Cincinnati, 27; Castilla, Colorado, 26; DeBell, Houston, 26; L.Walker, Colorado, 25.	
HOME RUNS—Chones, Atlanta, 6; McGwire, St. Louis, 6; H.Rodriguez, Chicago, 7; Castilla, Colorado, 7; Burns, Colorado, 7; Galaraga, Atlanta, 7; D.Lee, Florida, 6; Floyd, Florida, 6; Bumm, Milwaukee, 6; Caminini, San Diego, 6.	
STOLEN BASES—Stynes, Cincinnati, 7; E.Cyung, Los Angeles, 7; Biggio, Houston, 7; DeBell, Houston, 6; Bagwell, Houston, 6; McGwire, New York, 6; DeShields, St. Louis, 6; Sosa, Chicago, 6; Bonds, San Francisco, 5; D.Williams, Arizona, 5.	
PITCHING (3 Decisions)—Milwood, Atlanta, 3-0, 1.00, 3.08; Wandell, New York, 3-0, 1.00, 7.45; Hampton, Houston, 3-0, 1.00, 4.00; Tapani, Chicago, 3-1, .750, 5.73; A.Letay, New York, 3-1, .750, 1.44; 18 are tied with 67.	
STRIKEOUTS—Schilling, Philadelphia, 41; Milwood, Atlanta, 35; K.Brown, San Diego, 27; Hernandez, Atlanta, 26; Reynolds, Houston, 26; G.Maddux, Atlanta, 25; Ramirez, Los Angeles, 25.	
SAVES—Beck, Chicago, 6; O.Jones, Milwaukee, 6; Hoffman, San Diego, 5; Wohlers, Atlanta, 5; Shaw, Cincinnati, 5; 6 are tied with 4.	

AMERICAN LEAGUE	
Team	W L Pct GB
Seattle	12 6 .667
Tampa Bay	11 7 .611
Minnesota	10 8 .556
San Diego	9 9 .500
Los Angeles	8 10 .444
Chicago	7 11 .389
Arizona	6 12 .333
Colorado	5 13 .278
San Francisco	4 14 .222
Philadelphia	3 15 .167
St. Louis	2 16 .111
Washington	1 17 .056
Florida	0 18 .000
NATIONAL LEAGUE	
Team	W L Pct GB
Atlanta	12 6 .667
San Francisco	11 7 .611
Los Angeles	10 8 .556
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Washington	3 15 .167
Florida	2 16 .111
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San Francisco	0 18 .000







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**Sports Editors**  
Joe Hoffman & Ori Lewis

**AEK Athens to  
meet Kinder in  
hoops final**

BARCELONA (AP) — AEK Athens will try to become the third different Greek team in three seasons to win the European Championship when it meets Italy's Kinder Bologna in tomorrow's championship game.

AEK defeated Italy's Benetton Treviso 69-66 yesterday with the other semifinal at Palau Sant Jordi going to pre-tournament favorite Kinder, an 83-61 winner over Partizan Belgrade.

Former Yugoslavia national team center Zoran Savic scored 23 to lead Kinder.

AEK, led by American and former NBA player Willie Anderson with 21 points, will try following 1997 winner Olympiakos and '96 champion Panathinaikos.

Another American, Henry Williams had 22 to lead Benetton.

AEK coach Yiannis Ioannides is in his sixth Final Four and has yet to win one, losing twice with Olympiakos and three times with Aris Saloniki.

Ioannides hopes to become the first Greek coach to win the title. Olympiakos and Panathinaikos were coached by Yugoslavs.

# Maccabi Haifa blank Ironi Ashdod 5-0

Northerners will face Hapoel Jerusalem, 2-1 winners over Beersheba, in State Cup final

By DEREK FATTAL  
and OFER RONEN-ABELS

Maccabi Haifa and Hapoel Jerusalem reached the State Cup soccer final after scoring convincing wins over their respective semifinal opponents yesterday.

Haifa, the in-form side will be heavily favored to win the final on May 12 after demolishing nine-man Ironi Ashdod 5-0.

Hapoel Jerusalem had most of the possession and were deserved 2-1 winners over relegation-threatened Hapoel Beersheba in their semifinal.

Daniel Brailovsky's revived Maccabi Haifa stormed into the State Cup final with surprising ease against an Ironi Ashdod side that was eventually reduced to just nine men, after the dismissal of Hungarian Tibor Balogh early in the first half, and then Guy Sharabi after the break.

Mac. Haifa 5, Ironi Ashdod 0

The Haifa fans — whose fans made up the lion's share of the 25,000 doubleheader crowd at the National Stadium, Ramat Gan — demonstrated the kind of spirit and resolve which typified their golden period under former coach Giora Spiegel.

From the outset, Maccabi played fast measured football that denied any positive response from Ashdod. The trouncing began in the eighth minute with a well-flighted cross from the right wing from Avishai Jano that was steered in by Adoram Casey.

Straight after the restart, Balogh committed a wild challenge on Hezi Shirazi which was met with hesitation by a red card from referee Meir Levy. Four minutes later, the match as a sporting contest reached its conclusion when Arik Benado received the ball in the middle of the area, and with a measure of poise that belied his playing position as central defender, sent the ball skidding past Ironi goalkeeper Akaki Divadze.

For a while, Yossi Madar

labored studiously in midfield to marshal his depleted troops towards Nir Davidovich's goal, but it was clear that salvation was fruitless.

Alon Mizrahi made it 3-0 in the 50th minute when Divadze failed to collect a high corner kick lobbed in by Ibrahim Duro, and allowed the Haifa captain an easy nod into goal.

Five minutes later, Ashdod's participation in the proceedings was reduced to that of despondent wallflowers when Guy Sharabi was forced to bring down Duro who was in full flight towards Divadze's goal.

Duro then showed his pace and energy once more 11 minutes later, striking in the 66th minute.

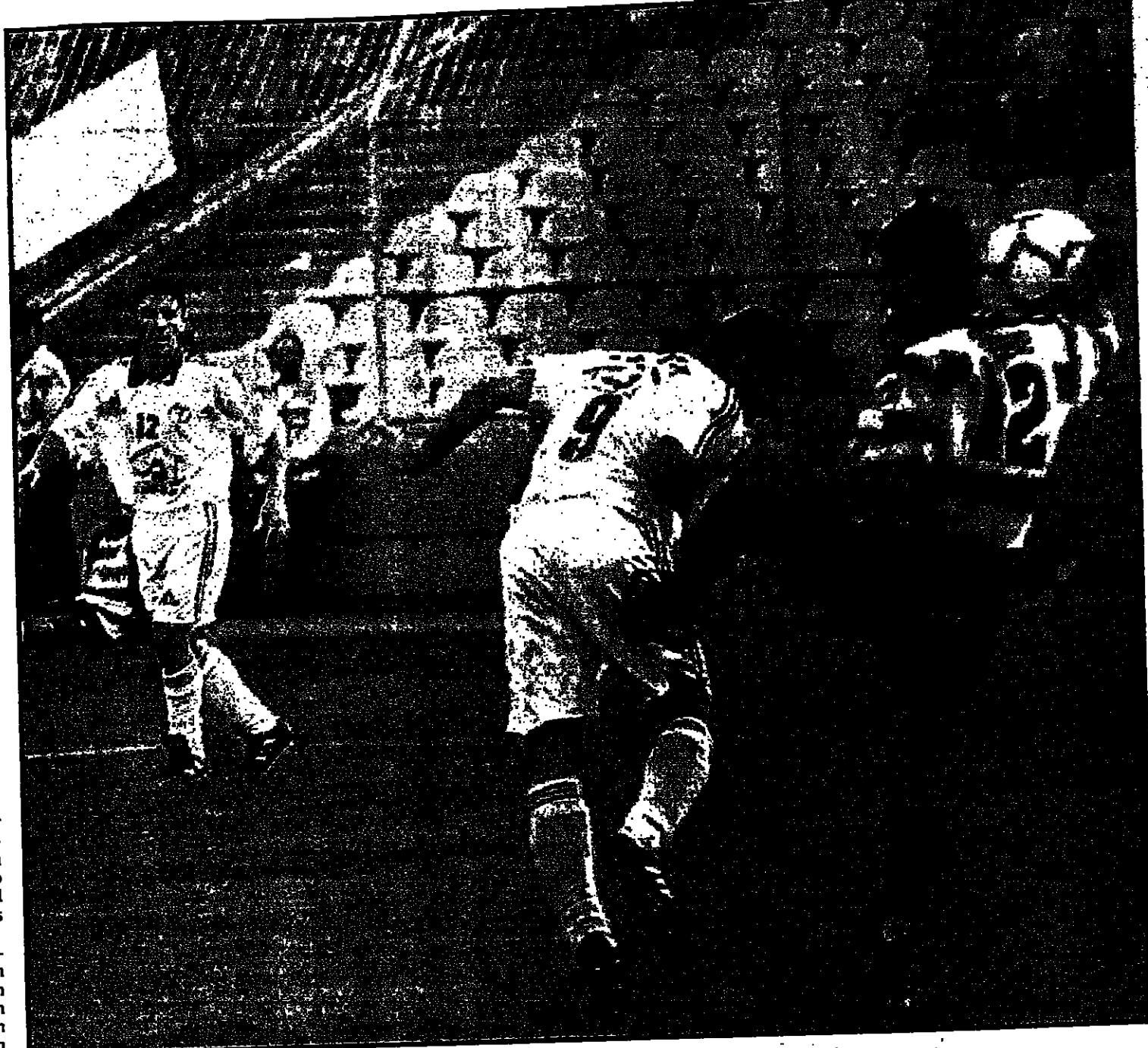
Hap. Jerusalem 2  
Hap. Beersheba 1

Beersheba took the lead against the run of play after 16 minutes when Dudu Heffer lost his marker inside the box, then turned and released a fierce right foot shot into the roof of the net.

Hapoel Jerusalem equalized 14 minutes later when their Hungarian Chava Horvath cut inside the box towards the byline before releasing a cross which was met by Assi Tubi whose first attempt at a header was saved by goalkeeper Shaul Smadja. Tubi was first to react on the rebound and his chip was headed in from close range by Motti Menahem.

Boosted by their equalizer Jerusalem took the lead five minutes from the interval when Menahem waltzed past two defenders, entered the box and was brought down by Beersheba's Haris Eliahac. Tubi converted.

In other action, Israel's under-18s beat Spain 2-1 in a European Championship qualifying match near Toledo yesterday but the win was not enough to see them gain the advantage. Spain won 2-0 in Ashkelon last month and are favorites to qualify for the finals. Liron Wilner and Yossi Benayoun scored Israel's goals



GOALMOUTH ACTION — Hapoel Jerusalem's Assi Tubi (9) has a shot on goal thwarted by Hapoel Beersheba defenders. Tubi collected the rebound and passed to Motti Menahem who headed in the equalizer. (Brian Hendler)

## Agassi wins easily, faces Sampras next

MONTE CARLO (AP) — Andre Agassi routed Todd Martin, 6-2, 6-1 in 55 minutes yesterday in the opening round of the Monte Carlo Open and faces Pete Sampras next.

"To play Pete so early in the tournament is unsettling. He's the guy you always expect to play at the end of the tournament," Agassi said. "Now my ranking is not so high and I have to play him early. I have to come ready to play. Obviously he's expecting a tough match. If I don't come out strong, I am going to have problems."

Agassi played just one match on clay last year, in Atlanta, and lost in the second round at the French Open two years ago, his last European tournament on the slow surface.

Martin was coming off a big win on clay at Barcelona.

Agassi, who has lost just four tournament matches this year, had an easy time against Martin.

"I certainly did everything that I needed to do against a player who plays like Todd does. I responded well to his big shots, moved well, served well, returned well. Just played well," Agassi said.

Belting winners from the backcourt and aided by 27 unforced errors by Martin in the match, Agassi cruised.

He even got into a 0-40 hole on his service in the first game of the second set and calmly got out of that and won the next five games to go 5-0 before Martin held.

Agassi finished off Martin in the next game calmly hitting winners from short returns and making his fellow American run all over the court in vain.

Sampras lost the No. 1 ranking to Marcelo Rios after the Chilean beat Agassi in the Lipton final. But Rios injured an elbow and had to withdraw from the following Davis Cup match and the tournaments in Barcelona and Monte Carlo.

The Monte Carlo withdrawal will cost Rios the No. 1 ranking.

In the ATP Tour rankings he loses more than 300 points. He led Sampras by 45 entering the tour-

namment and Sampras has no points to defend after losing in his first round match here last year.

Petr Korda trails Sampras by 157 points and the Czech player could overtake Sampras and become No. 1 if Korda does well and Sampras is an early exit.

But Sampras has to get past Agassi first.

"We're both used to playing each other on quicker courts where we know each other's game. You know, it's not the best surface for him certainly," Agassi said.

Agassi has been No. 1 already, leading the tennis rankings for 30 weeks in 1995. He had a poor year in 1997 before battling back to his current No. 22 after dropping as low as No. 141.

"Once you fall down in the rankings and you haven't played in a while, it takes twice as much work to come back. It's a lot of hard work," Agassi said. "When you work hard, you know, you believe in yourself more."

Agassi's last loss this year in a tournament was to Rios.

Agassi was surprised to see Rios gain the top ranking in tennis. "I couldn't have predicted it. Certainly he never seemed to me like he was No. 1 potential," Agassi said. "But he's proved me wrong, and many other people."

Two former champions had different results in first-round matches yesterday.

Thomas Muster a three-time winner and a former No. 1, lasted less than an hour as 14th-seeded Carlos Moya beat him 6-0, 6-3.

Muster is now ranked 27th in the world. He was briefly ranked No. 1 in early 1996 but the last tournament he won was more than a year ago on the hard courts at the Lipton tournament.

Also Sergi Bruguera, who is a two-time champion at Monte Carlo, advanced to the second round with a 6-1, 1-6, 7-5 victory over American qualifier Jeff Tarango.

Also Fabrice Santoro topped fellow Frenchman Arnaud Clement, 6-2, 6-1.



ON THE BALL — Andre Agassi jumps as he serves to Todd Martin in the first round of the Monte Carlo Open. Agassi won 6-2, 6-1. (Reuters)

## 'One person at a time'

Muhammad Ali strikes a blow for racial tolerance

NEW YORK (AP) — Two years ago, Muhammad Ali and author Thomas Hauser set off on a cross-country trip, talking to kids about tolerance.

They talked to black kids and white kids, Latin kids and Asian kids, rich kids and poor kids. They talked at inner city schools and suburban civic centers. They talked and people listened.

"If you have an audience of 1,500 kids and if you reach 1 percent — and that's low with Ali — that's 15 kids who are a little less prejudiced," Hauser said. "Maybe those 15 kids talk to a brother or sister or a parent. We got into this mess one person at a time. Maybe we get out of it one person at a time."

One of the stops on the trip was Pensacola, Florida, where the boxing great and Hauser met some resistance.

"A group of Christian Fundamentalists tried to block the appearance," Hauser said. "They said, 'We're not prejudiced, but we don't want a Jew and a Muslim talking to our children.'" Which, of course, was precisely the point in the first place.

The community prevailed and Hauser and Ali delivered their message.

Together, the two men wrote a book called *Healing, a Journal of Tolerance and Understanding* (HarperCollins). It is a slim collection of quotations, from Voltaire and Aristotle to Eleanor Roosevelt and Ralph Waldo Emerson. Perhaps the most poignant quote came from Ali: "I wish people would love everybody else the way they love me. It would be a better world."

The book and the tour were cited by the Givat Haviva Educational Foundation, which were scheduled to honor Ali and



Ali holding the flame at the 1996 Olympics. (Reuters)

Hauser last night in New York. The foundation is affiliated with Givat Haviva Institute in Israel, where 50,000 people a year come for workshops, seminars and educational programs.

Hauser said Ali's impact remains enormous. "It is 20 years since he won a fight and he is still the most recognized and loved person in the world," he said. "Fame and celebrity are an end in itself. People respond to Ali. He views his mission now as teaching people how to love."

There was pandemonium at every stop in the tour. At the Richards' Middle School in Atlanta, a row of cheerleaders and football players formed to greet the speakers.

Among the stops was the US Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington. Ali placed a white rose at the museum's eternal flame.

"I was left with a very simple thought," Hauser recalled.

"If we can harness the energy and love that emanate from this man, maybe we can change the world. One person at a time."

## Giants release Hampton Mandela: Rugby has become a symbol of racial division

EAST RUTHERFORD (Reuters) — The New York Giants parted ways with their all-time leading rusher yesterday, releasing Rodney Hampton and replacing him with unrestricted free agent running back Gary Brown. Hampton spent all eight of his NFL seasons with the Giants after being selected in the first round of the 1990 draft from Georgia, compiling 6,897 yards rushing in 104 games.

The 29-year-old Hampton had a streak of five consecutive 1,000-yard seasons from 1991 through 1995, and holds several other team records including career rushing touchdowns (49) and rushing attempts (1,824). Brown, who is just three months younger than Hampton, spent last season with the San Diego Chargers after five seasons as a member of the Houston/Tennessee Oilers.

CAPE TOWN (AP) — Rugby in South Africa has become a symbol of racial division and conflict, President Nelson Mandela told Parliament yesterday.

Just three years after Mandela donned a Springbok national team jersey in front of thousands of cheering fans at the 1995 World Cup final, his comments showed the government now believes the sport is resisting change in the country.

"What does give cause for concern ... is how a sport which only three years ago

became a worldwide symbol for our small miracle has once again become an icon of conflict, division and resistance to change," Mandela said in a speech opening debate on the annual budget.

Apartheid ended in 1994 with the nation's first all-race election, but rugby union remains a white-dominated sport. No black players are on the national team, and few compete on the top provincial clubs.

The South African Rugby Football Union, headed by Louis Luyt, won a court

decision last Friday in which a judge rejected Mandela's appointment of a judicial commission to investigate the organization.

Mandela said the government was likely to appeal the ruling.

Rugby union is hugely popular among Afrikaners, the descendants of Dutch settlers who dominated apartheid governments. Under white rule, the sport was hated by many blacks as a symbol of domination.

Last week, disgraced former national team player Toks van der Linde was sent home from New Zealand by his Western Stormers side after being accused of calling a woman a "kaffir," a derogatory term for blacks.

Yesterday, the ruling African National Congress study group on sport called for a life ban against van der Linde.

"Racism is actually thriving and growing in rugby," said the group's chairwoman, Lulama Xingwana.